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ANNUAL REPORT ON SAINT VINCENT, B.W.I.

FOR THE YEAR 1946

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PART I. A.

General Statement based on a Review of Matters affecting the Windward Islands during 1946

INTRODUCTORY

The note on which the Legislature closed the year 1945—the year which brought peace after World War II—was a cheerful prelude to 1946, and may therefore be repeated as a fitting opening for the first post-war Annual Report on St. Vincent. The President posed the following question at the conclusion of his Budget Address on the 10th December, 1945: “Has the progress made by the Governmental machine during the year 1945 been sufficiently great?” He answered it thus: “My reply must be ‘emphatically no’. But in giving this reply I think that you, who have followed me through this Address, can agree that some progress has been made; enough to encourage us to strive still harder for greater progress in the year that lies before us.”

It is true to say that this statement was at once challenging and stimulating, and while much leeway remains to be made up in the attempt to attain substantial improvement in economic, social and political conditions, the following pages will show that the year under review has indeed been an advance on 1945.

The path of progress has, however, been beset with certain difficulties, some of which are directly attributable to general world conditions. Although peace has been restored, not even little St. Vincent could hope to escape all the ill effects of the aftermath of global war.

A brief statement setting out the main lines of social and economic progress which it was possible to achieve during the war years 1939–45 is annexed as Appendix I.

It will be seen that to a not inconsiderable extent the history of local developmental projects is the history of the impact of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1940 on this Colony.

After a fruitful existence lasting over six years the Legislative Council was dissolved on the 24th August, 1946, and general elections were held on the 8th October. The first session of the new Council was opened on the 12th November with formal ceremony.

His Excellency, Sir Arthur Grimble, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Windward Islands, in a statement addressed to the four Legislative Councils at the close of the year, reviewed important matters affecting the Group as a whole which occupied his attention and that of his staff of advisers during 1946.

Reference must be made to the following points which relate more specifically to St. Vincent and represent the main lines of social and economic progress to the credit of the year under review.

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE ALLOCATIONS

The sum of £1,850,000 has been allocated to the Windward Islands under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1945, and the task of making the sub-divisions fell to the lot of the Governor. All factors known to be relevant were taken into account in making the sub-allocations, but the following three considerations strongly influenced the figures given:—

- (a) population ;
- (b) special needs ;
- (c) other factors.

After maximum deductions were made at source in respect of Windward and Leeward Islands joint schemes, joint Windward Island schemes and amounts required to complete airfields in each island, a sum of £1,441,500 remained for sub-division. Of this latter figure St. Vincent was allotted £345,858.

AIRFIELD

The amount tentatively reserved for airfield improvement in this Colony was £100,000. No further work has been possible at the Diamond Airport since (in May, 1945) British West Indian Airways decided that the airfield was unsuitable for the further operation of a service by the Company's aircraft.

Since February, 1946, St. Vincent, through the good offices of the British Guiana Government and the skill of Lieutenant-Commander Worby of British Guiana Airways, has been able to maintain a fortnightly charter service to and from Trinidad with one of the aircraft owned by that Company. But it is clear that British Guiana Airways may not be always able to cater thus for the convenience of a Colony of the Windward Islands. Various alternative sites in the island have accordingly been examined, but the most conservative estimate for the construction of a new airfield anywhere is £100,000, while less conservative estimates are of the order of £250,000.

In these circumstances it has been natural that St. Vincent should examine the possibility of obtaining the services of aircraft of a type more suited to the topography of the island before embarking on further considerable capital expenditure. An application is now before the Secretary of State for a grant of £12,700 from the earmarked reserve of £100,000 to enable a six months' trial demonstration of a Sikorsky helicopter to be carried out. If the application be approved, it is hoped that the demonstration may take place between January and July, 1947 and that, if the trials are successful, this type of aircraft may provide an answer to the special needs of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, including Carriacou, with regard to air communications.

LABOUR

Steps were taken to strengthen the staff and to reorganise the Colony's Labour Department in accordance with recommendations made in 1945 by the Labour Adviser to the Governor. As a result, machinery has been set in motion for the proper collection and preparation of labour statistics.

The Labour Officer, relieved of many of the routine office duties which, through lack of adequate staff, he was hitherto compelled to perform, has in consequence been able to establish and maintain closer personal contact with all concerned in the industrial field, resulting in noticeable all-round improvement in employer-employee relations. There were no strikes or lock-outs during the year.

Cost of Living.

The Cost-of-Living Index figure for the year 1946, as compared with the Index for the basic year 1939, so far as working-class families are concerned, was 201.

In view of misconceptions which have arisen as to the "basis" of Cost-of-Living figures, it is necessary to emphasise that the index was designed to measure the average percentage changes in the retail price of a fixed list of commodities bought by working-class households. It does not purport to reflect changes in expenditure resulting from alterations in supplies or consumption.

The question of revising the existing methods of compilation of Cost-of-Living Indices was discussed at the Labour Officers' Conference held in Barbados in May, 1946, and it was recommended that the Comptroller's Staff should undertake a Cost-of-Living study throughout the Caribbean region with a view to the establishment of a uniform system of compilation, but that meanwhile present methods should not be disturbed.

Trade Unions.

"It is the policy of Government to promote peace in industry and trade by the encouragement of the development of responsible organisations of employees and employers, with a view to (a) establishing collective bargaining machinery for the regulation of wages and working conditions and (b) resolving mutual problems arising in industry by joint negotiations wherever possible."

It is hoped that this declaration of policy by the Governor will be an impetus to the establishment of a system of self-government in industry. At the beginning of the year there were two registered employee Trade Unions in St. Vincent. In July a third was registered, and the total recorded membership reached 802 on the 31st December. No proper organisation of employers has yet been formed in this Colony.

Trade Agreements.

A trade agreement dated the 29th June between the proprietors of bakeries in Kingstown and the General Workers Union regulates wage rates, hours of work and other conditions of employment among bakers, and lays down procedure for the handling of future relations and the avoidance of disputes—an important contribution towards the establishment of harmonious industrial relations. Preliminary negotiations are proceeding towards the completion of further joint employer-Trade Union agreements.

Factory Legislation.

Factory Legislation has been enacted in St. Vincent, but owing to the absence of trained staff there is no machinery for the efficient enforcement

of such legislation. Government is, however, now considering the question of providing training courses in Jamaica for selected Labour Department Officers in methods of factory inspection and supervision.

AGRICULTURE

The progress of agricultural activities in St. Vincent is set out at some length in Part I B. and again in Part II of the Report, but it will be of value to state at this stage the objectives of agricultural policy in this island, as enunciated by the Governor, and to make passing reference to the subject of land settlement.

Agricultural policy has been formulated and already adopted by the Legislative Council.

One of the most urgent functions of the Agricultural Department is to impress on the public mind the fundamental importance of the soil, the island's chief asset, and to arouse among all classes of agriculturists a keen sense of responsibility and a full realisation of the part each one of them must play in an island-wide effort to conserve the soil and improve its fertility. In spite of many difficulties, a beginning has been made towards the attainment of this objective, and some small measure of progress may be claimed. Here, however, is a matter which calls for the active support of all thinking persons in the general interests of the community. Without that support and the full co-operation of the public, satisfactory progress can never be achieved.

In accordance with the recommendations of the West India Royal Commission, stations are being established to investigate and ultimately to demonstrate, it is hoped, systems of farming which, while being essentially economic and practicable, will improve the fertility of the soil and conserve it for the use of later generations. It is believed that no such farming system can prove successful without livestock: consequently much disappointment is being felt over the unavoidably slow progress that has been made in securing the services of suitably trained staff to furnish technical advice and supervision of the livestock section of the work.

The agricultural extension services of the Agricultural Department are gradually becoming more useful as the Department becomes better organised. The standard of efficiency of these services must inevitably remain disappointingly low until both definite information from the investigation stations and an adequate number of trained agricultural instructors are available.

The subject of "land settlement" (which term is generally understood to mean the acquisition of areas by Government, their sub-division into holdings and the settlement thereon of peasant cultivators) is receiving considerable attention. A statutory Land Settlement and Development Board has been set up in St. Vincent, and an area of some 4,600 acres has recently been purchased by the Government for organised development.

FISHERIES

A Fishery sub-division of the Agricultural Department has been established to implement the recommendations of Dr. H. A. Brown,

Fisheries Adviser to the Comptroller. A Junior Fishery Officer was appointed to survey the conditions under which fishermen work, to assess their requirements and to effect such immediate improvements in the matter of equipment and marketing as are possible.

FORESTRY

Staff.

The transfer of responsibility for forestry from the Public Works Department to the Agricultural Department has been effected in accordance with the forestry policy adopted by the Colony. Field staff has been provided from Colony funds.

Adoption of Forest Policies and Legislation.

The forest policies advocated in the published report "Forestry in the Windward Islands" (Development & Welfare Bulletin No. 11), by Dr. Beard, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Lesser Antilles Division, has been accepted by the local Legislature.

A Forests Ordinance based on the model provided in the Bulletin has been passed, while Crown Land Forests Produce Rules, also based on the model provided, have been made; as well as new Crown Land Regulations.

Research.

An ecological survey of the island has been completed, and work has been started on the compilation of a booklet on the "Trees of the Windward and Leeward Islands" based on studies made of the flora during the last three years.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Staff.

The Social Welfare Adviser to the Governor arrived from England during June and, working from St. Vincent as a base, will divide her time as equally as circumstances permit between the four Colonies. Her function will be to travel as a Staff Officer between the Governor and the four Administrators for the purpose of establishing cohesion of policy, standardisation of method and the quickest possible service of authoritative advice in her particular field. She will maintain direct contact with the local Departments in all technical matters.

Training Courses.

Of the nine Social Welfare students from the Windward Islands undergoing training in 1946, four came from St. Vincent—two in Jamaica, one at the London School of Economics, and one taking a special course in Child Care in England. During 1946 one other student attended a six months' Handicraft Course in Trinidad.

Delinquency.

A part-time Probation Officer has been appointed, and the former female prison has been converted into an institution for juvenile offenders (boys) so that they may receive educational instruction and trade training.

A comprehensive review of the need for the establishment of reformative institutions for juveniles in the Leeward and Windward Islands has been conducted by the Social Welfare Adviser, whose report is under consideration. With regard to the bringing to Court of charges against juveniles, arrangements have been made for such charges to be heard at special sessions.

Local Government.

Legislation is being prepared for the establishment of Village Councils, and 1947 should see a beginning in this direction.

Clubs.

The 4-H Club Movement continues to progress, and Women's Clubs also are thriving in many parts of the Colony. A Youth Centre has just been established in Kingstown, and a Club Room under the supervision of the Social Welfare Officer is open every night for the use of different Clubs.

A Social Welfare Advisory Committee, representative of all sections of the community, has been appointed. The object of this Committee is to co-ordinate and encourage voluntary social work within the island, for it is on such efforts that the success of social welfare will ultimately depend.

Poor Relief.

Poor Relief is now administered by the Social Welfare Department, and the Relieving Officers operate under the guidance of the Social Welfare Officer.

Co-operative Society.

A marketing co-operative, the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, is well organised, and continues to be an asset to the economic life of the Colony.

COST-OF-LIVING CONFERENCE

A Conference of Controllers of Supplies of the Windward Islands sat in Grenada from the 22nd to 26th November under the Chairmanship of the Economic Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare. The Conference had the advantage of being assisted by Trade Commissioners from Canada, the West Indies and the United Kingdom, as well as by representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of the Colonies of the Group. It is hoped that, as a result of the recommendations of this Conference, there will be a reduction in the cost of living and uniformity in percentage "mark-ups" for wholesale and retail trade throughout the Windward Islands.

GENERAL

In addition to the foregoing, brief mention must be made of the following matters which are of more than passing interest.

Census, 1946.

A Population Census, together with an Agricultural and Fishery Census, was taken in the Colony, in common with almost all the other British West

Indian Colonies, on Tuesday, the 9th April, 1946. The Census will be used by Government as the basis of study of the social and economic conditions of the Colony. It is impossible, without a proper census, to plan effectively. Already Government has begun to give consideration to the question of a plan for social security now that reliable statistical information is available.

Water Supplies.

Plans have been completed for a large-scale Regional Water Supplies Scheme, and an order for the necessary equipment has been placed with the Crown Agents for the Colonies. The project should materialise in 1947.

Hydro-Electric Scheme.

The hydro-electric possibilities of the Colony were surveyed by Mr. G. Roddam, Hydraulic and Electrical Engineer on the staff of Advisers to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare, with encouraging results. Mr. Roddam's proposals, which have been adopted, open up a new vista of development, welfare and happiness for a large part of the population of the island.

Ten-Year Development Plan.

The revised Ten-Year Development Plan for St. Vincent was nearing completion at the close of the year, and every effort was being made to present the Plan to the Legislative Council and the Secretary of State for the Colonies at an early date in 1947.

PART I. B.

Reports on Progress of Important Local Projects for Development and Welfare

AGRICULTURE, LAND SETTLEMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

Agriculture.

While welfare projects in this Colony are distributed over various services and administered by many departments, any developmental programme must focus largely on agriculture; and, with the recent addition of forestry and fisheries to the functions controlled by the head of the Department of Agriculture, development of all the productive resources of St. Vincent are centred in this organisation.

Recovery from the war and its effects is not yet complete, and during 1946 development was handicapped by shortages of staff, accommodation and equipment. Broadly speaking, however, a programme based on the utilisation and conservation of land resources, improvement of crop yields, raising of livestock standards and the instruction of agriculturalists in better farming methods was pursued with success. Progress was assisted by the co-operative attitude of the agricultural population.

Colonial Development and Welfare funds bore the greater part of the financial burden, but the local budget made the maximum contribution that its slender resources would permit.

The plan for agricultural development centres largely around the Camden Park Experimental Station. This covers an area of nearly 400 acres, where local problems will be investigated on a farming scale. During 1946 both breeding and agronomic experiments were run with economic and food crops, green vegetables and fodder; investigations into pest control were initiated; and, from the livestock improvement angle, the nucleus of a breeding programme, with special emphasis on the creation at Camden Park of a reservoir and rehabilitation centre for the district stud stations, was inaugurated. Soil-conservation measures in the form of contour cultivation, strip cropping, plant barriers, tie ridging, bench terracing and diversion ditches were demonstrated. An apprenticeship scheme, which has as its object the production of model peasant farmers, got under way in March.

The Extension Service programme during 1946 was concentrated chiefly on soil-conservation measures, as erosion is the Colony's major agricultural problem at the present time. Contouring on estates and peasant holdings, which had been considerable even at the end of 1945, was increased to the limit that funds, staff and equipment would permit. Previously laid down demonstrations were maintained and new ones established. Fodder and barrier grass-planting material was made available through Government nurseries.

Other aspects of extension work were tackled in the effort to raise the

standard of living of the local farmer through the constructive exploitation of his resources. District stud centres were increased in number from two to three, and an eagerness to avail themselves of the advantages offered at these centres was evidenced by the peasantry. A junior Agricultural Instructor, with experience in bee culture, concentrated on the stimulation of interest in the production of honey. Attention was paid to improving agricultural practices on land settlements. Encouragement was given in the formation of Credit Societies to fulfil an urgent need among small-holders. Advice on farming systems, crop rotations and agricultural methods was available throughout the period. Farmers took full advantage of a subsidisation scheme for the encouragement of the use of commercial fertilisers.

During the second half of the year considerable effort was directed towards the establishment of mulberry cultivation for the development of a silk industry. The British Caribbean Silk Company, Ltd., is sponsoring the venture, and an optimistic picture of the chances of success in St. Vincent has been painted by Mr. John Barry, the Director of the Company, who visited these islands during the year. He has selected this Colony for intensive investigation and instruction in silk-worm culture, and two instructors are expected to arrive from the Bahamas early in 1947. These men will give local agricultural officers and would-be producers the elementary instruction necessary to the establishment of the industry on a satisfactory basis. At the end of the year about 6,500 mulberry plants were already sprouting, and this was considered a sufficient nucleus for implementing the industry on a minor scale. Consequently, small quantities of eggs have been solicited for trial here, and a batch from Turkey was received in December. It was placed in cold storage, pending the arrival of the technical officers from Nassau. A total of 1,798 mulberry plants have been established on Government-owned areas, and the remaining 4,702 are distributed between thirteen estates. A number of the plants are still in nurseries.

Staff has been a limiting factor in the progress of agricultural schemes throughout. The Senior Extension Officer received promotion to another Colony in early August, and from then until October only one Agricultural Assistant was available for extension work in the whole Colony. Provision existed for a complement of three, but the final appointment was not made until December. The need for trained junior extension personnel was also acute. The arrival of a graduate of the Hope School of Agriculture, Jamaica, in November to fill a post as Senior Agricultural Instructor has brought home more forcibly than ever the value of training. This officer has created such a favourable impression that a reduction in the total number of posts to allow for the employment of two more of these better-qualified officers is under serious consideration. The agricultural instructor is the key to the development of sound farming principles in the local community.

One of the Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes provides for district houses for agricultural instructors. The fact that shortage of material has prevented the erection of a single one of these has also handicapped progress. Desirable quarters are unobtainable in some of the districts most suitable for development, with the result that action has had to be postponed.

Land Settlement.

The purchase of two groups of estates for the extension of land settlements in St. Vincent was completed at the end of the year. This area, which comprises nearly 4,000 acres, will be developed through a corporate body known as the Land Settlement and Development Board. The land will be made available under a leasehold system which provides at the same time security of tenure for good farmers and protection of the soil from mal-treatment. Different types of settlement will be tried out. The main features of these will be (a) co-operative farming on a large-scale unit, (b) homestead, full-time, individual smallholdings, and (c) food-garden allotments for part-time workers. Variations in farming systems and areas will, it is hoped, give definite information on the economic unit in relation to family size and farming system. Development will be gradual, and for some time at least part of the area will be run on estate lines by a manager appointed by the Board. Concurrently a Land Settlement Officer will work on the settling and development of the area for the purpose for which it has been acquired.

Forestry.

The previous practice of viewing Crown Lands administration as a problem separate and distinct from agricultural development came to an end at the beginning of 1946, and the Forestry Division passed to the control of the Department of Agriculture. A survey is necessary to provide for the tracing of Crown Land boundaries and the delineation of forest reserves, but on its completion a really adequate land-utilisation policy will be possible. In the meantime a start has been made by requiring Crown Land tenants to sign a new agreement aimed at the protection of both forests and arable areas. The new policy provides for the wise exploitation of forest products, and to this end nurseries of economic forest trees have been established. Marking equipment has been procured to facilitate the enforcement of the new Forest Ordinance, which prohibits the felling of trees except by permission of the Chief Forest Officer.

Fisheries.

The Fisheries Division was inaugurated in July, 1946, but neither time nor circumstance has permitted of much progress in the development of the industry. Funds for staff and ad hoc investigations were provided under an approved Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme, but the request for assistance with capital improvements was shelved pending a decision on the Colony's Colonial Development and Welfare allocation. Now that this is known, it is felt that more important needs must be met first.

This lack of funds for capital works has aggravated the difficulty of developing the fishing industry in the complete absence of co-operative effort among the fishermen which now exists. Consequently, since the execution of some necessary surveys, attention has been concentrated on the formation of Fishery Associations. Progress has been most disappointing, and it is felt that the educational standard of the average fisherman is such that a very practical demonstration of the value of co-operation is necessary to put the idea over with them. An officer will

probably have to be appointed to do the actual work of negotiating for supplies, markets and credit on their behalf before they can appreciate and initiate collective action on their own.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

There are two schemes supported by funds from Colonial Development and Welfare in the West Indies which are of considerable importance in the development of medical policy and progress in St. Vincent, and they are closely inter-related: The first, for which a grant of £10,000 was obtained in 1942, was originally intended for the setting up of three model health centres under the care of specially trained staff, whilst the second, for which a grant of £20,000 was made in 1944, was for the replacement of existing rural dispensary units by permanent and suitable buildings, and for the building of small cottage hospitals at each District Medical Officer's headquarters, where these did not previously exist. A subsidiary scheme for the removal of the medical headquarters of the St. Vincent Grenadine Islands from Union Island to the island of Bequia, and for the building of a comparable hospital and dispensary unit there, was approved in 1945, and a grant of £6,500 made for the purpose.

Partly owing to restrictions on building and other activities imposed during the years of war, but principally to the impact of the two later schemes upon the significance of the first, it became necessary to develop and extend its original intention from that of providing three health centres to serve as models for the future to that of providing a single teaching centre, where the subordinate medical staff of existing dispensaries and clinics could be trained in methods of preventive and social medicine with a view to putting them into practice in the units to be built under the other two schemes.

The situation chosen for this extended unit was at Belair, where, by 1944, two staff houses, a day nursery and a dispensary unit had been built and opened, and where maternity and child-welfare clinics, a social diseases clinic, a school medical service and other similar activities were established. This and the subsequent year were largely devoted to the organisation of ways and means of developing the unit into a teaching institution, for owing to the lack of staff already experienced in this work the existing staff had to obtain their own experience to qualify as teachers. A series of individual cards were drawn up and printed. The first was a maternity card, on which each expectant mother who attended the antenatal clinic, or who was visited by the health visitor, was entered. When her baby was born, it was entered on an Infant Welfare Service card, regularly maintained in the case of infants attending the institution, visited or admitted to the day nursery. After reaching the age of one year, each was transferred to a toddler's card, which took them up to school age, after which they continued on the card used for the School Medical Service. Here continuity will be to some extent lost, unless in later years the necessity for attendance at the Social Diseases Clinic arises. All these cards are included in a card-index system, and eventually it is hoped to build up a more or less complete health record of the 3,000 or so people served by the institution from before birth to the end of school age, and afterwards in those cases who subsequently acquire venereal diseases or

yaws. In order to correlate the individual disabilities displayed by the cards of this system with environmental disabilities, and so to allow these to be overcome by advice or assistance, each of the 800 odd households comprising the population are also recorded on a separate card-index system, with adequate cross references to the first. On these "Household Schedules", as they are known, are recorded the names and other details of each member of the household, with a reference to the card number of the clinic each has attended, details of the dwelling itself, sleeping accommodation, ventilation, state of repair and general sanitary arrangements, a description of the water supply available and of the general cleanliness of the surroundings, and of the prevalence of mosquitoes, flies and vermin, together with an appraisal of ability of the woman of the house in such matters as marketing, cooking, cleanliness and housekeeping generally. These records are compiled by health visitors and by a specially trained Sanitary Inspector known as a Health Instructor, and have now been completed for the district served by the Belair Institute.

During 1945 a building suitable for use in teaching these methods to nurses, sanitary inspectors and other medical aids was designed and nearly completed before funds provided by the grant became exhausted, when work ceased. As no further funds became available in 1946, it was only possible to continue the active work of the Institute without embarking upon the work of teaching, for which it was primarily intended, though one nurse was admitted towards the end of the year and will in due course be posted to one of the new dispensaries to practise what she has learnt at Belair.

Work under the two building schemes commenced in 1946, and considerable progress was made. A building consisting of a dispensary, doctor's consulting-room and a treatment-room was designed to meet the needs of the methods to be taught at Belair. This, with a two-roomed nurse's house, comprises a unit, and four such units were completed in 1946—three of which were opened and in use during the year. A combined hospital for six beds and nurses' house was nearly completed at Belair, but awaits fittings before it can be put to use. The unit at Bequia to serve the Grenadines, consisting of a combined hospital and dispensary with staff quarters, was under construction during the year.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Like 1945, the year 1946 was fraught with many difficulties, the major ones being the shortage of lumber, then of nails, roofing and cement. As was to be expected, the operations of the supplementary staff of the Public Works Department engaged on Colonial Development and Welfare schemes were thereby seriously curtailed. Work on the Bequia Hospital, dispensary and nurses' quarters at Cumberland, among others, had to be discontinued, and certain temporary foremen returned to their respective home islands.

It was a cause for much satisfaction when a shipment of cement and a few bags of nails arrived late in the year and work was resumed. Despite the setbacks, St. Vincent had the pleasure of witnessing, before the end of the year, the official opening of two modern schools (one at Questelles and the other at Georgetown), a bridge at Chateaubelair and

dispensaries and nurses' quarters at Camden Park and Calluaqua. Moreover, the extension of the Troumaca jetty had been completed, while the dispensary at Cumberland, the hospital at Bequia and the Experimental Station buildings at Camden Park were well on the way to completion.

Here it may not be out of place to describe briefly the situation of some of the places mentioned. Georgetown, the second largest town of the island, is connected to Kingstown, the capital, by 22 miles of sinuous tar-macadamised road—a full hour's drive. Chateaubelair, or Richmond Town, is on the Leeward coast, and 21 miles of very difficult and tortuous road from Kingstown; most of the materials have to be conveyed by boat. Much the same applies to Cumberland and Troumaca, which are also on the Leeward coast. Bequia is a small island dependency about 9 miles south of St. Vincent: communication is only by sloop, and no telephone or wireless connection yet exists. Cost of transportation therefore tends to hamper progress.

EDUCATION

As a result of grants from Development and Welfare funds, an annexe consisting of two classrooms was built at the Girls' High School; that school was provided with certain equipment for the teaching of Domestic Science; and it was made possible for a Woodwork Centre to be started at the Grammar School.

Through the generosity and unselfish co-operation of the Methodist Church Authorities, the hostel, school buildings and equipment of the Glen Community School have since August, 1944, been placed at the disposal of the Education Department for the purpose of holding six-day courses for teachers during the Easter and August vacations. Classes have been held in agriculture, carpentry, domestic science, infant methods, general methods, technical drawing, land measurement and plan drawing, the teaching of English art and handwork. In addition, three-day lecture courses and discussions were conducted at Kingstown, Troumaca, Colonarie and Georgetown for teachers of the respective areas. From time to time printed notes on various subjects—viz., discipline, speech, reading, composition, art, etc.—were circulated to the schools.

The three teachers who were sent to the Trinidad Government Training College for Teachers in 1945 for training as Supervising Teachers, and the Government Scholar, who was sent in 1944 for a two-year course, returned in December, 1945; and with two other Trinidad-trained teachers were appointed in six districts of the Colony as Supervising Teachers, their duties being to assist the Head Teachers in supervising both the studying and teaching of the part-time Pupil Teachers.

In January, 1946, two male teachers were sent to the Trinidad Government Training College for Teachers to take the one-year Special Course.

At the end of 1946, 194 Pupil Teachers were working under the new Pupil-Teacher system by which they teach for half the day and study for the other half.

Parallel with the reorganisation of the Pupil-Teacher system, ten Primary School pupils (five boys, five girls) were sent to the Secondary Schools for a three-year course as Intending Teachers in training. In

January, 1946, another ten pupils entered the Schools. The reports at the end of the school year were satisfactory, and those of the best of the pupils were definitely good.

Larger supplies of text-books, stationery and handwork equipment have been made possible from a grant under Colonial Development and Welfare funds, and, according to Head Teachers' reports, an improvement in attendance followed on the distribution of readers and exercise books.

With the opening of new school buildings at Questelles on 22nd May and at Georgetown on 25th September, long-felt needs for increased accommodation in those schools were greatly relieved. Other benefits derived from grants from Development and Welfare funds were the furnishing of these schools with new furniture of an approved modern type, thereby allowing the old furniture to be given to other schools in the areas, and the supplying of several schools, at which floor-space permitted, with seats and tables of the new type.

Previous to leaving the Colony in October to spend the leave which was due on the completion of his three years' service in the United Kingdom, the Education Officer prepared and submitted programmes and projects for all the existing schemes with regard to education in the Colony, and for the establishment of Schemes for Vocational Training and Adult Education, for inclusion in the Ten-Year Plan of Development for St. Vincent.

PART II

Chapter 1 : Population

The Census of April, 1946, showed the population of the Colony to be 61,660 (males 27,938 and females 33,722), as compared with the Census of April, 1931, which recorded 47,961 (males 21,208 and females 26,753)—an increase of 13,699 (males 6,730 and females 6,969) and a percentage increase of 28.6 (males 31.7 and females 26.0).

The population of the Colony was distributed as follows :—

- (a) *Kingstown, the Capital:* 4,831 (males 2,071, females 2,760)
as compared with 4,269 (males 1,720, females 2,549)
in 1931—an increase of 562 (males 351, females 211)
and a percentage increase of 13.2.
- (b) *The suburban areas of Kingstown:* 9,932 (males 4,407, females 5,525)
as compared with 6,947 (males 3,080, females 3,867)
in 1931—an increase of 2,985 (males 1,327, females 1,658)
and a percentage increase of 43.0.
- (c) *The rural areas:* 42,413 (males 19,522, females 22,891)
as compared with 33,062 (males 14,809, females 18,253)
in 1931—an increase of 9,351 (males 4,713, females 4,638)
and a percentage increase of 28.3.
- (d) *The Grenadines:* 4,484 (males 1,938, females 2,546)
as compared with 3,683 (males 1,599, females 2,084)
in 1931, an increase of 801 (males 339, females 462)
and a percentage increase of 21.7.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages, Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS, WAGE RATES, AND HOURS OF WORK

Of the population of 61,660, it is estimated that 20,600 or 33.5 per cent. depend upon the following occupations for employment :—

- (a) Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing . . . 11,000 or 17.8 per cent.
- (b) Manufacturing Industries . . . 2,250 or 3.7 per cent.
- (c) Building and other Construction . . . 1,650 or 2.7 per cent.
- (d) Transport and Communications . . . 1,700 or 2.8 per cent.
- (e) Commerce . . . 1,300 or 2.1 per cent.
- (f) Hotel and Personal Services . . . 1,800 or 2.9 per cent.
- (g) Public and other Services . . . 900 or 1.5 per cent.

The wage rates in these industries are as follows :—

(a) *Agriculture (excluding Forestry and Fishing):*

Men 2s., women 1s. 6d., plus a bonus of 10 per cent. for a day of eight hours.

(b) *Manufacturing Industries:*

Men 2s. 6d. to 3s., women 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d. for a day of eight hours; also

Men 16s. 8d. to £1 os. 10d., women 10s. to 15s. for a week of forty-eight to sixty hours.

(c) *Building and other Construction:*

Men 4s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. for a day of eight hours.

(d) *Transport and Communications:*

Men 2s. 3d., women 1s. 8d. for a day of eight hours; also

Men £3 2s. 6d. to £5 4s. 2d. per month (ten hours of work per day).

(e) *Commerce:*

Men 16s. 8d. to £1 9s. 2d., women 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. for a week of forty-two to forty-eight hours; also

Men £3 2s. 6d. to £6 5s., women £2 10s. to £5 4s. 2d. per month (forty-two to forty-eight hours of work per week).

(f) *Hotel and Personal Services:*

16s. 8d. to £1 os. 10d. per month (with meals) and £1 9s. 2d. to £1 13s. 4d. per month (without meals) (ten hours of work per day).

(g) *Public and Other Services:*

(1) *Government Clerical Service:—*

Class III	£80 by £10 to £100 per annum
Class II	£110 by £10 to £200 per annum
Class I	£215 by £15 to £300 per annum
Special Grade	£320 by £20 to £400 per annum
plus a bonus of £16 per annum for all grades.	

(2) *Primary School Teachers:—*

Certificated Teachers . Men	£120 by £10 to £200 p.a.
(Selected Grade) . Women	£110 by £10 to £160 p.a.
Certificated Teachers . Men	£80 by £5 to £120 p.a.
(Long Grade) . Women	£60 by £5 to £110 p.a.
Uncertificated Teachers	£50 per annum
Student Teachers .	£40 per annum
Pupil Teachers:	
Fourth Year	£25 per annum
Third Year	£20 per annum
Second Year	£15 per annum
First Year	£12 per annum
Probationary	£9 per annum
plus a bonus of £16 per annum for all grades.	

COST OF LIVING

The Cost-of-Living Index figures for all items for the year 1946 as compared with the basic year (August, 1939), in so far as working-class families are concerned, were:—

190, 190, 190, 189, 189, 189, 194, 196, 201, 202, 202, 201.

The percentage increases in the various groups at 31st December, 1946, were as follows:—

Food, 90; Fuel and Cleaning, 96; Rent, 40; Clothing, 186; All other, 95.

The percentage increases in the staple foodstuffs and articles of clothing were as follows:—

<i>Staple Foodstuffs.</i>		<i>Clothing.</i>	
Beef, fresh	55·5	Bags, flour	414·3
Bread	150·0	Chambray	180·0
Fish, fresh	47·5	Cotton, white	275·0
Flour	216·7	Denim	277·3
Milk, fresh	50·0	Drill, khaki	275·0
Oil, edible	55·5	Oxfords	181·3
Rice	133·3	Prints	164·1
Sugar, unrefined . .	83·3	Shirts, working . . .	205·7

None of the above articles was subsidised by Government during the period under review.

The cost of living in St. Vincent is reasonable for officials and others from overseas, mainly as a result of low direct taxation. On an income of £800, less than 10 per cent. would cover all tax liabilities. Rent is rather high, and as much as from £80 to £120 a year may be asked for a suitable unfurnished house. Servants are cheap, and good ones are obtainable for about £30 a year. Imported foodstuffs are expensive, but local products, including vegetables, fruit, meat, fish and dairy produce, are all reasonable. Two people should be able to live very comfortably and keep a car on £600 per annum, if they were prepared to limit their entertaining to reasonable proportions.

STAFF AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

The staff of the Department of Labour during 1946 comprised the Labour Commissioner, three Clerical Officers and a Messenger.

The principal duties devolving upon the Department are as follows:—

- (1) To supervise and review the conditions of the various forms of employment of workers which exist in the Colony;
- (2) To ensure the due enforcement of the laws affecting labour;
- (3) To assist in the preparation of any legislation which may be considered necessary in connection with labour matters;
- (4) To make recommendations to the Governor from time to time for safeguarding and promoting the general welfare of workers;
- (5) To investigate all representations made by the employers or workers, with a view to settling disputes and improving industrial relations;

- (6) To visit the various places of employment of workers in the Colony, with a view to studying rates of pay, hours of work, living conditions, overtime, and all other practical details ;
- (7) To be responsible for the maintenance of Employment Exchanges ;
- (8) To collect and prepare statistics relating to the following matters :—
 - (a) the number of persons employed in any specified trade, occupations or industry ;
 - (b) the number of persons unemployed, and any surplus or shortage of labour in the various employment centres ;
 - (c) the rates of wages payable to all classes of workers, and hours of work ;
 - (d) cost of living ;
 - (e) the number of persons recruited for work away from their homes ;
 - (f) the employment of women, children and young persons ;
- (9) To study Customs returns which largely reflect the spending capacity of workers, rising standards of living, improved conditions of housing, diet and similar points ;
- (10) To study the incidence of taxation and its effect upon the flow of labour ;
- (11) To keep in touch with the Education Department with special reference to the practical results of vocational training and the possibilities of employment for those leaving school ; with the Medical Department in connection with sanitation, housing, nutrition and diseases affecting labour ; with the Agricultural Department in connection with land for food gardens, cash crops and for housing settlements ;
- (12) To give advice and help to such bodies as may be undertaking the formation of trade unions.

TRADE UNIONS

The undermentioned Trade Unions were in existence as at 31st December, 1946 :—

- (a) *The St. Vincent Peasant Cultivators' Union*, which was established on 7th June, 1945, and registered on 12th June, 1945—membership 284.
- (b) *The St. Vincent General Workers' Union*, which was established on 23rd October, 1945, and registered on 11th December, 1945—membership 472.
- (c) *The St. Vincent Growers' Union*, which was established on 14th May, 1946, and registered on 5th July, 1946—membership 50.

LABOUR DISPUTES

There were no strikes or lock-outs during the period under review, but the Department dealt with a number of minor differences arising mainly out of non-payment of wages and other conditions of employment.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

There were no changes in, or additions to, existing labour legislation during the year, a complete list of which is shown hereunder :—

Ordinances.

- (1) The Compensation for Injuries Ordinance, Cap. 75.
- (2) The Labourer's Occupancy of Land Regulation Ordinance, Cap. 76.
- (3) The Labourer's Occupancy of Land Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 10 of 1944.
- (4) The Trade Unions Ordinance, No. 22 of 1933.
- (5) The Trade Unions (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 17 of 1939.
- (6) The Trade Unions (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 11 of 1940.
- (7) The Trade Unions (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 7 of 1943.
- (8) The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance, No. 20 of 1935.
- (9) The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 14 of 1939.
- (10) The Employers and Servants Ordinance, No. 16 of 1937.
- (11) The Employers and Servants (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 20 of 1938.
- (12) The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, No. 21 of 1939.
- (13) The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 8 of 1943.
- (14) The Recruiting of Workers Ordinance, No. 3 of 1940.
- (15) The Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 1 of 1941.
- (16) The Employment of Children (Prohibition) Ordinance, No. 8 of 1940.
- (17) The Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Inquiry) Ordinance, No. 14 of 1940.
- (18) The Factories Ordinance, No. 20 of 1943.
- (19) The Factories (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 29 of 1943.
- (20) The Shops (Hours of Opening and Employment) Ordinance No. 1 of 1942.
- (21) The Shops (Hours of Opening and Employment) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1942.
- (22) The Shops (Hours of Opening and Employment) (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1943.
- (23) The Department of Labour Ordinance, No. 14 of 1942.

Statutory Rules and Orders.

- (1) The Recruiting of Workers Regulations, 1940.
- (2) The Recruiting of Workers (Notified Places) Notice, No. 13 of 1942.
- (3) The Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Regulations, No. 14 of 1942.
- (4) The Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Regulations, No. 26 of 1944.

- (5) The Recruitment of Workers (Amendment) Regulations, No. 70 of 1944.
- (6) The Trade Unions Regulations, 1940.
- (7) The Workmen's Compensation Regulations, 1940.
- (8) The Department of Labour (Agricultural Workers) Order, No. 18 of 1943.
- (9) The Department of Labour (Agricultural Workers) (Amendment No. 2) Order, No. 61 of 1945.
- (10) The Department of Labour (Powers and Duties of Labour Commissioner) Order, No. 19 of 1943.
- (11) The Factory and Machinery Regulations, No. 103 of 1943.

There is factory legislation in existence in this Colony, but as difficulty is experienced in obtaining "a person qualified by training and practical experience to undertake examinations and tests of machinery", the legislation has not yet been brought into operation.

Provision is also made under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance for compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment. Certain classes of workers are, however, excluded from the provisions of this ordinance.

There is no legislative provision for sickness, old age or other social insurance benefits.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

In the following table, which sets out separately the figures of local revenue and expenditure and those relative to Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, there is presented a picture of progressive expansion throughout the period from 1938 to 1945 :—

Year	Local Revenue	C.D. and W.	Total	Local Expendi- ture	C.D. and W.	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938	101,588	428	102,016	96,083	679	96,762
1939	101,862	276	102,138	100,347	26	100,372
1940	115,904	—	115,904	106,371	3,416	109,787
1941	115,659	3,604 *	126,388	111,207	501	111,708
1942	115,715	— *	117,023	125,420	12,100	137,520
1943	162,420	22,780	185,200	141,032	18,823	159,855
1944	183,899	23,778	207,677	166,522	18,516	185,038
1945	189,639	26,057	215,696	200,876	49,216	250,092

* Imperial Grant in 1941 of £7,125 and in 1942 of £1,308.

There were five main heads of Revenue—viz., Customs, Licences, Excise and other Internal Revenue, Fees of Court or Office etc., Post Office, and Electricity and Telephones—and, as the following statement discloses, these sources formed the Colony's mainstay consistently throughout the period :—

Year	Customs	Licences, etc.	Fees, etc.	Post Office	Electricity and Telephone
	£	£	£	£	£
1938	44,845	26,193	4,061	9,721	6,228
1939	50,747	27,427	7,375	2,972	6,870
1940	54,513	37,022	7,092	2,667	7,389
1941	55,685	34,946	7,981	3,287	8,084
1942	43,278	41,638	9,212	8,396	7,984
1943	68,563	54,074	9,639	15,115	9,690
1944	85,693	61,529	10,585	10,627	10,333
1945	77,652	69,394	11,913	12,601	11,361

The main heads of Expenditure showed no variation from those of previous years, and are set out comparatively in the subjoined table:—

Year	Public Debt	Pen- sions	Educa- tion	Elec- tricity.	Medi- cal	Miscel- laneous	Police	P.W. Rec.	P.W. Ext.	Trea- sury
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938	8,028	7,932	12,534	4,565	16,398	4,280	5,539	6,928	6,325	4,556
1939	8,213	6,310	12,831	4,874	19,071	5,046	6,041	6,849	6,690	4,199
1940	8,354	5,737	13,807	5,574	18,798	4,860	6,584	7,986	7,740	4,520
1941	8,704	7,127	15,325	5,594	19,596	8,500	6,875	8,486	3,621	4,902
1942	8,782	6,903	15,093	6,632	22,688	10,082	7,535	12,345	4,828	4,801
1943	8,833	6,210	16,837	7,503	24,756	14,066	8,813	14,689	4,515	4,863
1944	8,889	7,622	17,845	9,596	26,866	18,525	10,043	10,042	4,437	6,973
1945	8,815	7,399	25,010	10,035	27,637	31,388	12,141	17,305	8,305	9,067

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1945, totalled £78,389, of which local loan issues are represented to the following extent:—

Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930	-	£ 800
Land Settlement Loan, 1932-35	.	4,100
District Water Supply Loan, 1934	.	1,000
Public Purposes Loan, 1937	.	9,060
Telephone Loan, 1938	.	1,500
Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939	.	3,636
		<hr/>
		£20,096

A statement of the Assets and Liabilities, including a comparative statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the year, is attached as Appendix II.

The main heads of Taxation and the yield from each appear below:—

Import Duties	.	£68,383
Export Duties	.	8,706
Licences	.	4,122
Excise Duties	.	23,907
Trade Duty	.	4,239
Income Tax	.	21,846
Stamp Duties	.	3,713
Land and House Tax	.	6,046
Estate Duties	.	4,529
		<hr/>
		£145,491

The principal features of the Customs Tariff are reproduced in the table at Appendix III.

Locally manufactured spirits bear an excise duty of 14s. 2d. per proof gallon and, in addition, a Trade Duty is imposed, on locally manufactured rum of 2s. per proof gallon, and on imported spirits of 3s. per gallon, liquid or proof according to circumstances.

The minimum rate of Income Tax, in the case of individuals, is 5d. in the pound, and the maximum 14s. 6d.; but at intermediate points in the income progression, beginning from £1,000, a percentage surtax ranging from 5 per cent. to 25 per cent. is also imposed. The incidence of tax at varying income charge levels is tabularly set out at Appendix IV.

In the case of Companies the tax is at a flat rate of 5s. in the pound.

The more important Stamp Duties are detailed at Appendix V.

The basic Land Tax in St. Vincent and Union Island, the largest dependency, is 1s. per acre or part thereof, while in the other island dependencies comprising the Grenadines it varies between 3d. and 6d. per acre. In St. Vincent an additional tax per acre, of 6d. or 1s. 6d., according to the size of holding, is also imposed. In only two of the Grenadine Islands is a similar additional tax levied, the rates being respectively 6d. and 3d. per acre or fractional part.

The tax upon houses, levied only in St. Vincent, Union Island and Bequia, is based on the assessed annual rental as follows:—

£3 and not exceeding	£5	.	.	.	2s. per house
Over £5	£6	.	.	.	2s. 6d. per house
" £6	£7 10s.	.	.	.	3s. 4d. per house
" £7 10s.	£9	.	.	.	4s. per house
" £9	£10	.	.	.	5s. per house
" £10	£12 10s.	.	.	.	6s. 8d. per house
" £12 10s.	£15	.	.	.	10s. per house
" £15 at the rate of	£5 per centum of the assessed annual rental.				

These taxes are payable without penalty between 1st November and 31st December. During the following January arrears of unpaid taxes are subject to a fine of 3d. where the total due does not exceed £1, and at the rate of 8 per cent. on amounts in excess. Thereafter all outstanding amounts are collected by a bailiff under warrant of levy and execution.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

There is no local currency, and all the gold, silver and bronze coins of the United Kingdom circulate at face value. Silver is legal tender for any amount and copper for any sum not exceeding 1s. Trinidad Government Currency Notes exchange at the rate per dollar of 4s. 2d., and are unrestricted as legal tender.

The only note issue Bank in the Colony is Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), which carries out general banking operations and had in 1945 a note circulation of £21,571 17s. 6d. Interest-bearing deposits are limited in the Savings Branch to £500 and the rate allowed is 1 per cent. per annum.

Savings Departments are also operated by the St. Vincent Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank, Ltd., which was established for the purpose of assisting peasants with money advances for crop cultivation; and by the St. Vincent Co-operative Bank, Ltd., formed for general co-operative activities and assistance. The rate of interest allowed is in each case 2 per cent., the former organisation holding at 31st December, 1945, a sum to credit of 1,499 depositors amounting to £15,340, and the latter £2,742 on behalf of 866 depositors.

The Government Savings Bank enforces a limit for amounts held on deposit by any individual at any one time of £1,000. At 31st December, 1945, the total deposits amounted to £85,698, representing 2,170 depositors, the rate of interest earned being $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

There were no outstanding commercial developments during the year, but trade was well maintained in spite of unsettled conditions still existing in world markets as an aftermath of the war's disruptive effects. The main imports and exports, as compared with the preceding year's quantities, are annexed as Appendix VI.

Chapter 6 : Production

The great majority of the Colony's production is agricultural. Arrowroot starch, Sea Island cotton, copra, cassava starch, peanuts, food crops and livestock contributed heavily to the 1946 exports; while the production of sugar, food crops, edible oil and animal products for local consumption played an important part.

Arrowroot starch is paramount in the island's economic picture, and represents nearly half of the total value of exports. Over 6,500,000 lb. of starch were produced from the 1945-46 crop, and exports for the calendar year under review totalled approximately 6,300,000 lb. It will be seen from these figures that arrowroot is grown principally for export. In fact only about 0.26 per cent. of the crop was consumed locally. All the starch is shipped through a single agency—the St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association. The two chief markets are the United States of America and the United Kingdom. During 1946 they took 75 per cent. and 20 per cent. respectively of the total exports. But for the fact that stocks were limited, both countries would have increased their orders.

It was estimated that about 79 per cent. of the 1945-46 production was from estates, although nearly half of the estimated acreage of 3,500 was grown by peasants. This very much lower average yield by small growers is the result of several factors: chief among them are the following:—

- (a) The fertility level of the large estates is on the whole much higher;
- (b) The value of artificial fertilisers is universally accepted on estates: peasants are still being educated to their use.

- (c) The higher overheads of the small producer make it difficult for him to give his crop the cultural care available on the larger units.
- (d) The peasants have to rely almost entirely on the estate factories for the processing of their starch : naturally, owners give their own crops preference, and peasants' rhizomes often have to await processing beyond the optimum period for the starch production.

A scheme begun in 1945, under which all small growers were subsidised to the extent of half the value of the planting material used in the cultivation of new areas, resulted in 455 more acres being planted for the 1945-46 crop. This made an important contribution to the 32 per cent. increase in starch production on the previous season. The scheme was repeated in respect of the 1946-47 crop, and it is estimated that, with estate increases, the arrowroot area was expanded to 4,000 acres. During 1946 the application of sulphate of ammonia by small growers was also subsidised as part of the drive to increase supply to meet demand and obviate the danger of substitute starches coming on the market.

The increase in production through improved processing machinery resulting in a greater starch recovery is also being investigated. Trials commenced in the United Kingdom in 1945 with samples of material sent from this Colony were continued during the year under review. The Colonial Products Research Council has this matter in hand.

In spite of the fact that during 1946 United States prices were increased by $\frac{1}{2}\text{e}$ ($\frac{1}{4}\text{d.}$) per lb. for the higher grades (which account for the majority of the production) and by $\frac{1}{2}\text{e}$ ($\frac{1}{8}\text{d.}$) for the lower ones, arrowroot-growers are not making high profits. A recently conducted economic survey showed that profits per barrel (224 lb.) dropped from \$4.00 (16s. 8d.) to 64e (2s. 8d.) during the five-year period ending 30th June, 1945. The increase in United States prices brought them in line with those already prevailing in the United Kingdom, and a further increase of 1e ($\frac{1}{8}\text{d.}$) per lb. is being sought on both export and local prices in view of the report on the survey.

Sea Island cotton lint was an important export commodity in 1946, in spite of the considerable drop in production recorded since 1940. The 1945-46 area was estimated to be about 800 acres more than the previous season's. This was the result of the extension of the guarantee in price by the Ministry of Supply. Interest in the crop, however, continued to decline, and the situation was aggravated by the lack of artificial fertiliser when it was most needed. When it did become available it was not taken up by the planters for the benefit of their late-sown fields to the extent that had been anticipated. Yields per acre dropped, and inadequate attention was given to the preparation of the seed-cotton for ginning. The whole 1945-46 crop was marked down in price, and though the acreage returns for the crop planted in August/October, 1946, are not yet in, seed sales and observations by Extension Officers indicate a reduction of area. Every precaution is being taken to assure that the lint sent on this season is properly classified, in order to restore confidence in the St. Vincent mark.

Sea Island lint is, of course, produced solely for the export market. Small quantities of low-grade material are retained in the Colony for the

stuffing of furniture, cushions, etc. Of a total production of 355,867 lb. (890 bales) of lint from the 1945-46 crop, 322,810 lb. (807 bales) were classified as white and shipped to the Ministry of Supply; 22,033 lb. of second white and stained also went overseas.

It was estimated that nearly 1,958 acres were cultivated by about 2,010 peasants in 1945-46. These sold their seed cotton (which resulted in 143,306 lb. of lint) to the ginneries on a profit-sharing basis. The remainder of the crop (212,561 lb.) was produced on about 1,182 acres by estates or large peasant proprietors who ginned under their own marks on a fee basis. The disparity in the yields obtained from the two types of producer is extremely marked: being 73 lb. and 180 lb. of lint per acre, respectively. The chief reasons for this difference are the low fertility level of the small man's land and the fact that, through ignorance of its value or lack of funds, artificial fertiliser does not occupy the position it should in his farming system.

Up to the end of the 1945-46 crop two ginneries were in operation in St. Vincent: the Government-controlled Central Cotton Ginnery, which ginned 84 per cent. of the 1946 production, and a privately owned concern run by the Agricultural Credit and Loan Bank. The latter ginnery ceased to operate at the end of the year, and the Central Ginnery took over its equipment.

The Central Cotton Ginnery also owns the only oil-expressing plant at present in operation in the Colony. Cotton-seed and copra were converted into useful by-products, which made a valuable contribution in edible oil, stock feed, manure and, to a lesser degree, soap.

Production of the low-quality perennial Marie Galante Cotton in the Southern Grenadines declined further. Only 17,650 lb. of lint were obtained from the 1945-46 crop. The price is unremunerative, and agitation continued in 1946 by the inhabitants of these islands for a change over to Sea Island. The experimental plantings commenced at Mayreau, one island of the group, with the 1945-46 crop were continued in 1946-47 with apparent success.

The coconut industry has increased considerably in importance since war conditions upset the markets of the world and reduced so greatly the supply of fats and oils. Exports of copra in 1946 totalled 1,369 tons valued at £47,942, and 349 tons were used locally in the production of edible oil, stock feed, manure and soap. In addition, 91,426 whole nuts valued at £573 were exported. Total production in 1946 was estimated at 10,000,000 nuts, from a probable 5,000 acres. Estates produced nearly 90 per cent. of the crop, and the output of one of these plantations was placed at 5,000,000 nuts. The majority of the nuts grown on small plots were consumed locally, chiefly in form of green fruit, but since the increase in copra prices some peasants have been selling dry nuts to estates for processing into that commodity. About 80 per cent. of the coconut production went overseas.

Cassava starch again occupied a relatively important place in the Colony's exports in 1946, but there can be little doubt that those conditions which caused such a rapid increase in production during the war years have already begun to change. During the year under review approximately 495,800 lb. of cassava starch valued at about £7,280 were sent overseas. This showed a 24 per cent. drop on the 1945 shipments. Total

cassava starch production in 1946 was estimated at 700,000 lb., of which about 30 per cent. was consumed locally. In addition to what was turned into starch, a small portion—probably about 5 per cent.—of the cassava crop was made into “farine” for use as a local food. It was estimated that 40 per cent. of the crop was produced on estates, and the remaining 60 per cent. by large and small peasant proprietors. About 1,000 acres of cassava were grown in St. Vincent in 1946, but a part of this area (about 2 per cent.) was under the type used as a food crop, and not converted into either starch or “farine”.

Peanut exports in 1946 showed nearly a 30 per cent. drop on 1945, but their value decreased by only approximately 22 per cent. This was probably due to the fact that though the total area decreased, the proportion of the cultivation under the large type of nut increased. Production during 1946 was estimated at 600,000 lb., of which about 285,000 lb. valued at £7,400 were exported. About 50 per cent. of the peanut production is grown on estates. War conditions were responsible for an increase in the value of exports from £2 in 1938 and 1939 to £9,469 in 1945. A further decline in exports must be anticipated with the return to normal.

Sugar-cane production, as usual, made an important contribution to local needs. In 1946 the whole Mt. Bentinck Factory output of 1,526 tons of dark crystal was consumed at home, and another 466 tons of unrefined sugar were imported. Efforts are being made to expand production to meet local needs and provide a surplus for export, and last year 26·5 per cent. more sugar was produced than in 1945. Mt. Bentinck is the only sugar factory in the Colony, and about 70 per cent. of the estimated cane area under cultivation for sugar (700 acres) was grown on the Company's estate; the remainder was grown by peasants in the surrounding area. 38,138 proof gallons of rum were produced at the Mt. Bentinck Distillery from the 1945-46 crop.

Besides the sugar-producing area, about 150 acres were grown chiefly for the manufacture of syrup. The export trade in fancy molasses has not resumed its pre-war status, and only 220 gallons of this bulky product were shipped in 1946. Production was estimated at 12,000 gallons.

Food crops were grown on about 10,000 acres, as usual. It was difficult to estimate production, as these commodities are grown chiefly by peasants in small plots and mountain gardens all over the island largely for home consumption. Sweet potatoes, however, commanded a fairly good market in Trinidad, and in 1946 exports totalled about 3,800,000 lb. valued at £12,750. The total production of sweet potatoes was estimated at 9,500,000 lb., while that of tannias and edoes was placed at 750,000 lb., and yams at 500,000 lb. To these must be added more or less unknown quantities of maize, peas, plantains, pumpkins and other types of food crops. About 95 per cent. of all food crops were grown by small holders.

Livestock production has never taken an adequate place in this Colony's development. The 1931 census showed a particularly low ratio of cattle to human population; and with a 28·6 per cent. increase in the number of people, the position in 1946 was, if anything, slightly worse.

The following table gives the two census returns for the various animals :—

	1931	1946	<i>Per cent. change</i>
Cattle	6,070	7,741	27·5
Sheep	2,205	3,754	70·2
Goats	5,813	11,039	89·9
Swine	6,182	9,369	51·6
Horses	357	154	56·9
Mules	169	99	41·4
Asses	2,365	2,192	7·3

With the increased motor-vehicular traffic the decrease in equines is not surprising; but the idea of 3,002 dairy cows (giving for the most part extremely low yields) supplying the fresh-milk requirements of 61,660 people is not very satisfactory, either from a nutritional or farming viewpoint.

The census figures showed a population of 46,416 fowls, 231 ducks, 206 turkeys, 302 pigeons and 63 other birds. The number of beehives was reported at 83, and there were 905 rabbits.

During the period under review livestock and poultry to a total value of £13,211 went overseas. This showed a fairly considerable increase on the 1945 value of £8,891.

Small quantities of charcoal and firewood were shipped in 1946, but these bore no relation to the felling of trees that occurred, and there was no check on local consumption of forest produce.

Fishery production was previously estimated at 850,000 lb. per annum. During the second half of 1946 about 180,000 lb. was brought to the two principal local markets. A fair proportion of the local fishermen's catch was taken to Grenada and disposed of there. The census revealed that there were 992 fishermen in the Colony during 1946.

Chapter 7: Social Services

(1) EDUCATION

In 1946 the Primary Schools in St. Vincent, which are of two kinds—Government and Assisted—were divided as follows:—

- 15 Government,
- 9 Anglican;
- 11 Methodist;
- 2 Roman Catholic.

In the 37 schools, 61 certificated and 8 uncertificated teachers, 108 full-time Pupil Teachers and 194 part-time Pupil Teachers were employed. All the teachers were paid by Government. Appointments and dismissals have to be approved by the Governor, who may act on the recommendation of the Education Officer in the case of a Government School, and of the respective Committees of Management in the case of an Assisted School.

At the Pupil Teachers' Examinations held in August, 1946, twenty-eight of the sixty candidates were successful. Eight teachers passed the local section of the requirements for the award of a Teacher's Certificate.

All the schools are co-educational. The school-going age is from five to fifteen years, but in Senior Schools pupils may be retained one year longer. During the year under review, with a population of approximately 62,986 and a school-going population of approximately 16,000, the school enrolment figure was 12,657, and the average attendance figure was 7,790.

The majority of school buildings were overcrowded ; and the provision of new buildings at Questelles and Georgetown proved a boon to the areas. Land for school purposes was obtained in several localities, and further building grants were solicited. In April a second building was rented at Paget Farm, Bequia, and the Government Junior School there was converted into a Combined School—that is, instead of children having to leave at the age of ten and walk a distance of about three miles each way to school at Port Elizabeth, they could continue at Paget Farm and receive instruction up to the Sixth Standard.

The hours of instruction are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a luncheon period of one hour from 12 noon. The school curriculum includes English, arithmetic, geography, history, citizenship, agriculture, nature study, music, needlework, drawing, physical training and hygiene, hand-work and religious and moral training.

The Lunch Kitchen scheme started in 1938 continued to function at eight schools. These kitchens received a Government grant of one half-penny per day for each child in necessitous condition who was provided with a warm mid-day meal ; and a grant of £5 per annum towards the replacement of equipment. The Government contribution was supplemented by gifts in kind and money from persons in the various communities, by funds collected from entertainments organised by the school staff, by produce from the school gardens, and in some places by the sale of meals to pupils who live at a great distance from the school.

The actual running of the kitchens was without extra cost to Government, as the work of preparing the meals was done by the senior girls under the supervision of a senior female teacher. At all the schools the pupils and teachers evinced keen interest in the work, and showed cheerfulness in performing these extra duties. Such an arrangement, apart from arousing the community spirit of self-help, served as a modest attempt at teaching Domestic Science, as applied to kitchens.

Regional School Libraries were started at the eight areas from which distribution could best be carried out. Under the auspices of the British Council, the schools were supplied with an appreciable number of various periodicals and magazines throughout the year. The British Council also lent a number of photographs of "Schools in Great Britain" for exhibition here during September and October, 1946.

Apart from the ownership by the respective denominations of the buildings in which Assisted Schools were held, and the provision of a minimum amount of school furniture, Government was solely responsible for the maintenance of the Primary Schools. Assistance from Colonial Development and Welfare funds was received in connection with the training of teachers, building of schools and supplying of books, stationery and equipment.

Candidates from the Primary Schools compete annually for the awards of four Government Scholarships and one Scholarship from the Municipi-

pality of Kingstown, tenable at the Government Secondary School—Grammar School (boys) and the Girls' High School.

A measure of post-primary education was offered at the Glen Community School—a day school with a hostel attached. This institution was financed by the Government and the Methodist Authorities.

Secondary Education was provided as hereunder :—

Grammar School (boys).

The School continued to grow in numbers during the year, the average attendance being 190.

In May the results of the School Certificate examination taken in December, 1945, were received. Eleven out of seventeen candidates received certificates: four First Grade, six Second Grade and one Third Grade. The six unsuccessful candidates were all boys, who attempted the Examination because it was their last chance before leaving school.

In December, 1946, the School Certificate was taken by seventeen candidates, while the Higher School Certificate, on which the Island Scholarship will be awarded in future, was attempted by two candidates. Three boys entered for supplementary certificates in chemistry.

The usual games were played with as much enthusiasm as shortage of gear permitted. The School entered the Fraser-Neckles Competition in Cricket, and, although the team did not win any matches, at the end of the season there was marked all-round improvement. In the Football Competition towards the end of the year the School succeeded in winning one or two matches. Lawn Tennis and Table Tennis were also played, the latter being very popular with a number of boys who are not keen on cricket or football.

The Scouts and Cadets continued their activities during the year.

Girls' High School.

The number on Roll at 31st December, 1946, was 181. In order to provide increased accommodation, the Head Mistress' quarters had to be converted into Form Rooms.

Of the eleven pupils who sat for the Cambridge School Certificate in 1945, ten were successful. In December, 1946, the School presented nineteen candidates for the Certificate examination.

The usual school activities were carried on. The Assistant Social Welfare Officer was kind enough to assist with the physical-training classes of the School.

A secondary course was also given at the Immanuel Training Institute, a fee-paying private school which receives a Government grant of £125 per annum. The pupils of this school numbered forty-eight in the Secondary section and forty in the Primary section.

University education has been provided by the award triennially of a Scholarship called the St. Vincent Scholarship and tenable at any university or other educational institution as approved by the Governor-in-Council.

Financial assistance from the British Council, the Nuffield Foundation and Colonial Development and Welfare organisation made it possible for seven persons from St. Vincent to pursue advanced courses of study in the United Kingdom during 1946.

There were no university colleges and teachers' training colleges. Last year an Agricultural Scholarship was awarded for a student to take a three-year course at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad, and two Primary School Teachers were sent to take the Special Year Course, which was given at the Trinidad Government Training College for Teachers.

The Education Officer secured information from Colonies where Adult Education had been established, and included its introduction in projects to be effected under the Ten-Year Plan of Development for St. Vincent.

(2) HEALTH

Under existing circumstances it is not possible to obtain statistics relating to the prevalence of diseases and mortality for any year within the first three months of the following year, nor at any time are figures available of diseases by occupations. The returns of infectious diseases notified during the year are immediately available by the end of the year, however, and indicate that during 1946, 798 cases of influenza occurred with three deaths, thirty-one cases of pneumonia with eight deaths, and twenty-nine cases of enteric fever with eleven deaths. Usually about 30,000 cases of disease a year are recorded in the whole Colony, and the most prevalent diseases are infestation with intestinal parasites, bronchitis and yaws, in this order. Of the 1,000 odd deaths recorded yearly, nearly half are registered under unknown or ill-defined diseases, senility and congenital debility. Of specific diseases, the ones usually taking the highest toll of life are diarrhoea and enteritis, bronchitis, heart disease, syphilis and tuberculosis.

The institutional needs of the Colony are served by a single general hospital of 100 beds at Kingstown, and by two cottage hospitals of six beds each at Georgetown and Chateaubelair. Two other cottage hospitals are nearing completion at Bequia and Belair, and two more are projected at Biabou and Pembroke. Other central institutions include a pauper asylum for 125 inmates, a leper asylum which can house about twenty inmates, and a mental hospital for 100 cases. The seven rural districts are served, in addition to the cottage hospitals referred to above, by nineteen dispensaries at which weekly clinics are held in most cases. These are slowly being replaced by permanent buildings with a nurse in residence, from which a daily service will be available for cases of minor diseases which the nurse can deal with. Four of these new units are now in existence. During the greater part of 1946 two districts were without doctors in residence, due to vacancies in the Medical Officer establishment, or to the granting of leave over-accumulated during the war years. There were also employed fifteen District Nurses and Midwives, nine Dispensers and two Staff Nurses. Nine Sanitary Inspectors are posted to the rural districts, acting under the direction and supervision of a Chief Sanitary Inspector, whose duties are to ensure that the provisions of the Public Health Ordinance are observed, particularly with reference to buildings, nuisances, water supplies and similar matters. New developments during 1946 were all connected with schemes financed under Development and Welfare in the West Indies, and are described in the appropriate section of this Report.

(3) HOUSING

A full account of housing in St. Vincent is contained in the *Housing Survey* of the Colony published in 1943. Over 10,000 houses and 50,000 people were included in this survey, and the findings may be epitomised briefly thus : three-quarters of the houses consist of one or two rooms only, most of these being two-roomed houses ; the walls of 62 per cent. of the houses are of wood and 28 per cent. of wattle and daub ; 46 per cent. of the roofs are corrugated iron and 40 per cent. of thatch ; one-third of the houses are in bad or poor repair ; 77 per cent. of the houses are overcrowded, and 87 per cent. of the people are living under overcrowded conditions on English standards or 56 and 72 per cent., respectively, by local standards of 40 square feet of floor space per person ; and, finally, over a third of these houses have no latrines. Nine out of every ten houses are the property of the occupier, but in only 65 per cent. of the cases is the land on which the house is built owned by the occupier of the house.

In January, 1946, the Town and Country Planning Ordinance and the Slum Clearance and Housing Ordinance became law. Under the provisions of these Ordinances a Central Housing and Planning Authority was constituted in March, and the first meeting was held in May under the Chairmanship of the Senior Medical Officer. The Sanitary Superintendent of the Medical Department was seconded for duty as Secretary and Executive Officer, and the accountancy was undertaken by the Senior Clerk of the Department, in addition to her other duties. The first duty of the Authority was to prepare a scheme for the development of that part of Montrose Estate recently acquired by Government, with a view to providing relief to the condition of overbuilding and overcrowding in Kingstown by making house plots available to the population. The scheme was prepared with the assistance of the staff of the Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, approved by Government on 16th July, 1946, and took effect from 30th July, 1946. That part of the estate adjacent to Kingstown was vested in the Authority by Government, and in October a loan of £5,000 was obtained from the Government Savings Bank as working capital for the implementation of the scheme. By the end of the year considerable progress had been made in surveying, dividing into plots and laying out roads, and two approach bridges were under construction ; and much work had been done in land re-adjustment and disposal of plots. The scheme, which, in anticipation of the adoption of a Regional scheme for the whole of Kingstown area, was known as the First Supplementary Scheme, included in its provisions the zoning of much land for specific purposes outside the actual development area.

In June a resolution of the Authority was published to prepare a regional scheme for all that area of land lying within a radius of one mile of the Court House at Kingstown and an interim prohibition was placed on the development of the land in that area. Again with the assistance of the Comptroller's Town Planning Staff, this scheme was worked out, together with three further supplementary schemes zoning the Kingstown and adjacent areas for specific purposes, and all were nearing completion by the end of the year.

Much work was accomplished in organising and regulating procedure of the Authority and in establishing its finances on a sound basis. An application for funds to meet the cost of the office and central organisation of the Authority was submitted to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

Other activities of the Authority during the year included the preliminary consideration of schemes for the removal of the inhabitants of the villages of Sandy Bay, Cocoa, Grand Sable and Enham's to more suitable sites than they occupy at present.

(4) SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Welfare Department began 1946 with the following Staff:—

A Social Welfare Officer, a Woman Assistant Social Welfare Officer, a Group Organiser, a Poor Relief & Probation Officer, a Clerk (Third Class), and a Messenger.

The work of the Department continued along the lines which were started in 1945, and which were described in the 1945-46 Departmental Report as being "to engage in such activities as required little or no expenditure of money while a Departmental Sketch Plan for incorporation in the Colony's Sketch Plan was prepared. Field work was therefore directed mainly to the formation of Clubs."

At the end of 1946 nineteen 4-H Clubs and twenty-two Women's and Girls' Clubs formed by the Department were in existence. In addition, the Department's Club-room in Kingstown, which was fitted out from local funds, was being used by three Clubs, mostly Young Men's Clubs which are not included in the numbers of 4-H and Women's Clubs given above.

4-H Club work has suffered greatly since 1946 from the absence of a Field Officer, Mr. Huggins having left for England in August. Club work in general, especially in the rural areas, is greatly handicapped by an almost complete lack of people willing and competent to undertake instruction. It forces one to the conclusion that Social Welfare in St. Vincent can place no reliance on voluntary assistance to replace or supplement paid workers in this type of work; this affects 4-H Clubs especially, since instruction in agriculture and home-making is an indispensable part of their activities. It must be emphasised, therefore, that unless paid instructors are provided, 4-H Club Project work is bound to be practically non-existent, or of such a low standard as to be useless. It is hoped that instruction in bee-keeping by a trained instructor from the Agricultural Department will be available in 1947. Women's Club work has been satisfactory: but here again demands are being made on the Department for "instruction" in set subjects, such as first aid, cooking and sewing, which it is difficult for the Department to meet.

Attached to nearly every 4-H Club and Women's Club is a Thrift Club. There are twenty-four in existence, and the total savings as at 31st December, 1946, amounted to £139 17s. 6d. These savings are deposited in the Government Savings Bank.

The Club-Room situated below the Department's Offices provides for

certain Kingstown Clubs facilities such as the use of a piano—a gift from the British Council—a radio, table tennis and other indoor games, magazines and boxing-gloves, at a cost to each Club of 2s. per month. In 1947 it is intended to add a boxing-ring in the yard, and to form a Cricket Club. This Club-Room has been a success, and could well be made a pattern for similar Club-Rooms in the small towns and villages, provided (1) suitable accommodation can be found or built, and (2) proper supervision can be enforced.

The Colonial Development and Welfare scheme for the establishment of a Youth Centre in Kingstown, which was started early in 1946, was practically completed by the end of the year; and play on the two tennis-courts started in November. The completion of the Net-Ball and Captain Ball fields and the furnishing of the Centre's Club-Room must, however, await 1947.

Lack of materials and the non-availability of technical staff have delayed the execution of the scheme for building a Camping Site at Campden Park. However, plans and estimates have been prepared by the Public Works Department, and it is hoped to proceed with the scheme in 1947.

During 1946 a woman trainee was sent to Trinidad to take a course in handicrafts, mainly straw work.

The Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition, the second to be organised by the Department, took place in August. While the numbers of exhibits were not as numerous as in 1945, the standard was equally good.

A District Welfare Officer was added to the staff of the Department in May, 1946, and was appointed to the Windward District, with residence in Georgetown. However, from the time of his arrival he has been employed in Government Office, owing to a shortage of staff there and to the lack of a suitable house to be had in Georgetown. He has, nevertheless, been engaged in several projects which would normally fall within the scope of duties of a District Welfare Officer—*e.g.*, organising 4-H Clubs, settling disputes, and work in connection with the removal of villages.

The activities of the Poor Relief and Probation Officer increased in 1946. The number of poor-relief recipients on the register at the end of the year was 1,065, and the amount spent in Outdoor Relief totalled £2,351 2s. 10d.

At the end of the year thirteen boys were on Probation.

In 1946 the former female prison was turned into a boys' prison and put into operation towards the end of the year. The inmates, thirteen in number at the end of 1946, are given schooling three times a week at the Welfare Department by the Clerk to the Poor Relief and Probation Officer. The Social Welfare Officer and Poor Relief and Probation Officer visit the prison, and thus help the Prison Authorities in the supervision of the boys.

The boys are kept in strict segregation from the adult members of the male prison. In 1947 it is hoped that their training will include instruction in carpentry.

In addition, the Poor Relief and Probation Officer undertakes reconciliation cases and assists people in the obtaining of free summonses in maintenance and affiliation cases.

The *St. Vincent Welfare News* showed a drop in circulation from its

peak of 850 copies per issue, fortnightly, to 750 copies : this was not unexpected. The usefulness of such a paper is shown by the fact that St. Kitts-Nevis now produces a monthly paper of a similar kind, and the production of a similar paper is contemplated in other islands.

As from 1st April, 1946, the Information Office has been abolished, and the Information Officer has moved into the Welfare Department, where, in addition to his previous duties as Information Officer, he performs the functions of the newly-created Citizens Advice Bureau. Much work yet remains to be done to make this new venture a really vital part of the Welfare Department's activities.

In July, 1946, a grant was obtained from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for the erection of a Village Hall at Diamond Village on the Windward Coast. Negotiations with regard to the acquiring of a suitable site had not been completed in 1946. It is proposed that the villagers will provide the labour required at half the normal cost.

Steps towards the formation of a Child Welfare Association, which would work through the Department, were taken late in 1946.

Departmental Sketch Plans, including, for example, plans for the provision of Village Halls, Playing-fields, Play Centres, etc., were submitted for inclusion in the Colony's Sketch Plan.

Steps towards the formation of the " St. Vincent Public Officers Credit Union, Ltd.," were taken late in 1946. This move has been largely due to the initiative of Mr. Josse, the District Welfare Officer.

Miss Spelman, Social Welfare Adviser to the Governor of the Windward Islands, has paid several visits to St. Vincent since her arrival in the West Indies in July, 1946.

Two candidates for the 1946 Social Welfare Training Course, Jamaica, were sent from St. Vincent. They were Miss N. Kirby and Mr. F. Phillips, both Government employees.

Mr. Huggins, Group Organiser in the Social Welfare Department, left for England in August to take up a two-year Social Science Course at the London School of Economics.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

Legislation enacted during the year 1946 included the under-mentioned Ordinances of importance :—

No. 1: Slum Clearance and Housing, whereby provision is made in respect of the housing of persons of the working classes ; the acquisition, reconstruction and management of slum-clearance areas and re-development areas ; the repair or demolition of insanitary dwellings ; and in respect of purposes connected with all the aforesaid matters.

No. 2: Town and Country Planning, whereby provision is made for the orderly and progressive development of land, cities, towns and other areas, whether urban or rural ; and to preserve and improve the amenities thereof.

No. 7: Teachers Pensions (Amendment), whereby provision is made

for the payment to certified teachers (within the meaning of the regulations for Government and Assisted Primary Schools made under the Education Ordinance, 1937) of pensions at the same rate and under the same conditions as pensions paid to Civil Servants.

No. 8: Law Library, whereby the St. Vincent Law Library is established upon a statutory footing.

No. 12: Income Tax (Amendment), which implements the recommendations of Mr. H. R. Howie of the Inland Revenue Department of the United Kingdom. This Ordinance provides for the collection of tax in respect of any year of assessment in which no income accrues, provided that there was an income in the immediately preceding year. It also exempts from payment of tax Building Societies and any Co-operative institution as may be approved by the Governor-in-Council. The Ordinance makes provision whereby complete relief is ensured from double taxation in respect of incomes taxable both in the United Kingdom and in this Colony. Provision is also made whereby the Commissioner is empowered to disallow any transaction which may appear to be artificial or fictitious and which will reduce the amount of the tax payable. It is also provided that no avoidance of tax may be brought about by making any disposition in favour of minors. If the Commissioner has any good reason to believe that any person is likely to leave the Colony before the tax becomes payable, provision is made for the assessment and collection of tax on the incomes of such persons. The Ordinance further provides that undistributed profits of private Companies not retained for the reasonable requirements of the business of such Companies should be brought into the computation of shareholders' incomes for tax purposes. Finally, the Ordinance precludes persons who derive income from sources outside the Colony from arranging that they should enjoy full personal and family allowances both in this Colony and in the places wherefrom the other part of their income is derived.

No. 22: Land Acquisition, whereby the machinery by which land may be acquired by the Crown for public purposes is simplified and expedited.

No. 23: Education (Amendment), whereby the powers originally exercised by the Inspector of Schools are vested in the Education Officer. Provision is also made whereby the return of scholarship holders to the Colony is ensured and a guarantee given to them as to the minimum rate of salary which they should receive upon their return.

No. 29: Boundaries Settlement (Amendment), which makes provision for setting up machinery whereby surveys of land will be performed with greater accuracy and detail, and for the lodging in the Surveys Office of plans made under the Ordinance. The Crown Surveyor is empowered to refuse to accept plans for lodging which do not conform with the provisions of the Ordinance; and the scale of fees payable to Land Surveyors is amended.

No. 30: Supreme Court (Amendment), whereby all Barristers employed in the Legal Department of the Government are enabled to appear before the Supreme Court in St. Vincent without payment of the admission fee prescribed in the schedule to the Stamp Ordinance.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The local system of law enforced by the Colony falls under the two main heads :—

- (a) Statute law duly passed by legislation, etc. ; and
- (b) The Common Law of England.

The following is a division of the Courts—Supreme Court and Magistrates Court—with the causes which are usually adjudicated therein :—

(1) *The Supreme Court.*

(a) *Original Jurisdiction* ; All matters which are heard and determined by the High Court of Justice in England—viz., King's Bench Division, Divorce, Probate and Admiralty Division and Chancery Division—except as otherwise provided for by local legislation.

An appeal from this Court lies to the West Indian Court of Appeal, and thence to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

(b) *Summary Jurisdiction* ; To hear and determine without a jury or counsel all civil actions, whether of a legal or equitable nature, and all matters arising thereout or incidental thereto, to which the debt or damage claimed, or the amount or value does not exceed fifty pounds (£50) ; and in actions for the recovery of possession where the value does not exceed thirty pounds (£30).

An appeal from this Court lies to the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands Court of Appeal.

(c) *Criminal Jurisdiction* ; In the exercise of its Criminal Jurisdiction the Court shall have cognizance of all treasons, felonies, misdemeanours and offences committed in this Colony or within three miles of any of the shores of this Colony ; and of all treasons, felonies, misdemeanours and offences authorised to be tried and determined in this Court under and by any Imperial Statute now or hereafter to be passed for this purpose.

(2) *The Magistrate's Court.*

(a) *Criminal Jurisdiction* ; To hear and determine all complaints or information for summary offences.

(b) *Civil Jurisdiction* : To determine all actions of contract or tort other than cases of detinue where the amount claimed or value of the thing claimed, whether as a debt, balance of account or damages or otherwise, is in the case of actions of contract not more than twenty pounds, and in the case of actions of tort not more than ten pounds ; for damages for detention of and/or for the recovery of any chattel or thing which is not more than twenty pounds, and in cases for the recovery of possession where the value does not exceed twenty pounds ; and generally in all other matters in which Jurisdiction is by any law expressly given to Magistrates or Justices of the Peace.

An appeal from the Magistrate's Court lies to the Supreme Court in its Appellate Jurisdiction.

POLICE

Organisation.

There is an establishment of ninety-five officers and men to take care of the lives and property of a population of 62,000 people, giving an average of one member of the Police Force to every 652 inhabitants of the island. The strength of the Force during the year was one officer and ninety-three other ranks, the Superintendent of Police having gone on leave on 31st July, 1945. The one officer and sixty-three other ranks were stationed in Kingstown, and thirty other ranks among the twelve district stations.

In addition to its normal duties, the Kingstown Fire Brigade—assisted by the Volunteer Fire Brigade—is manned and operated by the Police, and all N.C.O.s and men at the Central Station undergo regular drill instructions and exercises in the handling and operation of all appliances and equipment, and in fire-fighting.

In the country districts the Police are Registrars of Births and Deaths, and undertake investigations on behalf of poor relief; and at Headquarters all clerical duties of the establishment are now undertaken by the uniformed branch.

Being under a semi-military organisation, the constables at Headquarters received training throughout the year in drill and musketry.

Prevention and Suppression of Crime.

During the year the Force was increased by seven constables, who were given the regular four months' course of instruction and posted to the Central Police Station, thus relieving seven trained constables for posting to the district stations early in 1947. Two stations were established—one on the mainland and the other in Bequia, the latter in an effort to reduce smuggling.

In 1945 two N.C.O.s were given training in C.I.D. work in Trinidad, and on their return one was placed in charge of the Central C.I.D., which was increased by one constable; and the other was posted to a very troublesome country district.

The number of beats in Kingstown has been increased from four to five, a better system of patrols has been introduced and the method of performing beat duty has been reorganised in an effort to cut the incidence of crime to the minimum. Better facilities for leave have been granted to the men, thus ensuring that they will be more vigilant when out on duty.

Crime showed a small increase over 1945, due chiefly to the number of prosecutions in respect of traffic and licensing offences and also to the increased vigilance of the Police and the co-operation of the public. There were three cases of unlawful killing during the year; one was dismissed for lack of evidence, the coroner's jury returned a verdict of killing in self-defence in another, and the other has been sent on to the Supreme Court for trial. More than three-quarters of the cases brought before the Court are for minor crimes and offences. The following table is inserted for comparison:—

	1938	1945	1946
Crimes and Offences investigated	3,093	2,254	2,748
Crimes and Offences brought before the Court	2,462	1,499	1,676

PRISONS

The beginning of 1946 found both the male and female prisons within the same compound as in former years, but by 19th January the female prison had been closed and the prisoners accommodated in the same building as the paupers at the Fort Institutions. This made the cells of the female prison as well as the Matron's quarters available for other purposes.

On 16th August an experiment in the care and education of male juvenile offenders was undertaken, and they are being housed in the former female prison, which can accommodate about twenty boys. This venture is progressing slowly, and is receiving the active support of the Social Welfare Department; and it is hoped that 1947 will see great strides being made with the reformation of these youngsters. All the boys admitted to this section are first offenders, and the present age limit is sixteen. They are being given instruction in carpentry and shoemaking, and are given ample opportunity to play both indoor and outdoor games.

Health.

The general health of the prisoners again showed a marked improvement, which is due, no doubt, to the improved and more balanced diet which was introduced early in 1945. 68·37 per cent. of the total population reported sick during the year, as compared with 88·02 per cent. in 1945. Of these 11·6 per cent. were hospitalised. Ulcers were very prevalent, and accounted for the greatest percentage of the sickness.

Discipline.

The discipline of the staff and prisoners was very good. The number of offences committed by prisoners during the year was 101, as compared with 270 for 1945.

Admissions.

The total number of admissions, including those persons on remand, compared with 1945 was as follows :—

1945		1946	
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
207	31	268	31

Removal of Prison.

A scheme is on foot for converting the Glen Community School, which was closed on 31st December, 1946, into a prison-cum-farm, and transferring the prisoners from the Kingstown Prison. This is a new venture in St. Vincent, and will need careful planning and handling if it is to succeed.



QUARTERS OF OFFICER IN CHARGE, CAMPDEN PARK EXPERIMENTAL STATION



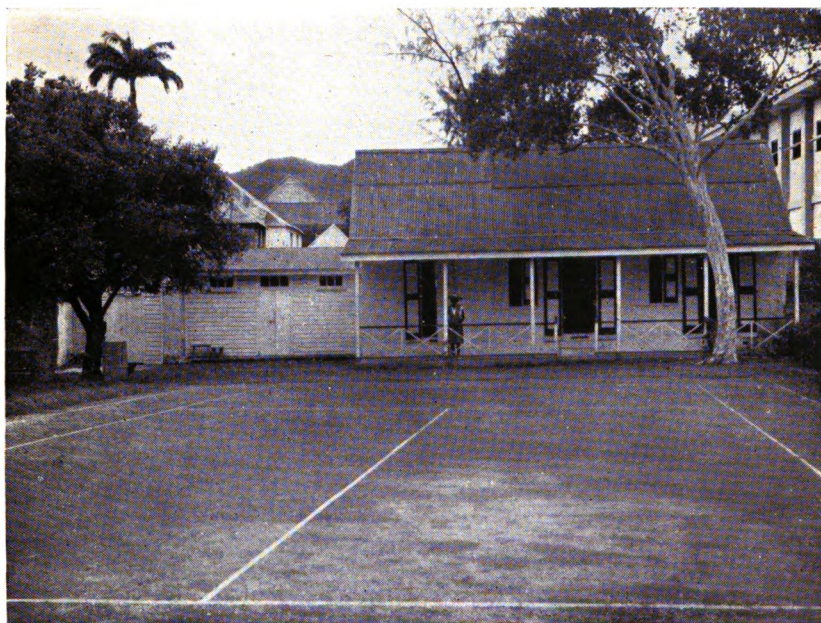
OFFICE BUILDING, CAMPDEN PARK EXPERIMENTAL STATION



CAMPING HUT, CAMPDEN PARK



HEALTH CENTRE, BELAIR



YOUTH CENTRE, KINGSTOWN



DISPENSARY AND NURSES' QUARTERS, CALLIAQUA

Chapter 10: Public Utilities

ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

The Electricity and Telephone Department consists of three Government-owned and operated utility services: an electric current supply, a telephone service and a cold-storage and ice-making plant. The electric current supply, generated by four diesel-engined alternators with a total output of 265 K.Ws., supplies the town of Kingstown and the outlying districts as far as Ratho Mill—a distance of 4 miles—with 400-volt three-phase fifty-cycle current for industrial purposes and 250-volt single-phase current for domestic lighting. Eight hundred and fifty-one consumers are connected to the supply, and there is connected up 183 H.P. The fuel supply, obtained from Trinidad, is transported by local schooners in fifty-gallon drums, and consequently the cost of current is such as to prohibit its use for the many domestic purposes for which it is so conveniently used in other countries. A recent survey of the hydraulic-power resources of the Colony has convinced Government of the wisdom of utilising the Colonarie River for the generation of electricity to supply the major portion of the island. A scheme for the installation of a 490-K.W. hydro-electric plant has been approved, and it is hoped that in less than three years electric current will be available at greatly reduced prices.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

The Telephone Service consists of a two-position C.B.S. switchboard in Kingstown and three small magneto-boards in the towns of Georgetown, Barrouallie and Calliaqua. Three hundred and eleven subscribers are connected to the system, which is not self-supporting, and is in poor condition due to the age and the initial fault of poor original construction. A scheme to reconstruct the entire system and convert it to full automatic operation is being contemplated by Government.

A ten-watt Marconi transmitter with receiver is installed in the island of Union, a dependency of St. Vincent, and communication is established daily with the station of Cable and Wireless, Ltd., in Kingstown. Efforts to establish contact with other dependencies resulted in an order being placed for another Marconi set to be installed in the island of Bequia.

COLD STORAGE

The Cold Storage and Ice-making Plant consists of six cold-rooms and a four-ton-per-day ice-making plant electrically operated with current supplied by the Electricity Department. The cold-rooms are little used, but the ice-plant is at present working at capacity to satisfy the demands of the Colony. When consideration is taken of the population, the demand for refrigeration space and ice is small. This is due to the lack of transportation, poor distribution and the high price of ice. An extension of the ice-plant to double its capacity is now on order, and a scheme to reduce the price and improve distribution of ice is being considered.

WATER-WORKS

The wells at Prospect, Pembroke, Brighton, Choppins, Sion Hill, Arnos Vale and Paget Farm; the piped supply at Camden Park; and the protected springs in various parts of the Colony are all in supply, and proving of considerable help to the people of the settlements in which they are located. These wells and springs, which for the most part are off the beaten track and in districts not likely to be served by piped supplies, were put down with Colonial Development and Welfare funds during the years 1942-46.

It is not without significance that at Edinboro, where there used to be occasional cases of typhoid fever, there has not been a reported case since 1943, when the well was constructed. The water is used to supplement the Kingstown Board's supply, which is intermittent.

The position at Bequia and at Union Island in the Southern Grenadines has been considerably improved by the putting down of hillside catchment areas leading to distribution reservoirs. Experience has proved that masonry or concrete has very definite advantages over "colas" (a bituminous by-product) as a covering for catchment areas.

The piped supplies in the small towns of Chateaubelair, Barrouallie, Calliaqua, Georgetown and Layou were given the usual attention. The Troumaca, Lauders and Layou supplies are unsatisfactory. Arrangements are being made for improving the first named during the coming year.

The time is now reasonably near when, with the commencement of work on the dam at Water House in the upper reaches of the Yanbou River, 90 per cent. of the population will be served by a pipe-borne water supply. This large-scale Regional Water Scheme has been made possible by assistance under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Funds have been used, firstly, by the public health branch of the Medical Department in carrying out a preliminary island-wide water survey between 1940 and 1942, and subsequently by Mr. G. Roddam, Water Engineer, whose survey and report have become the blueprint for the development of one of the Colony's natural assets.

When the first instalment of the Roddam Plan, known as the "South Regional Scheme", has been carried out, the sixty-year-old Kingstown water supply, which has been groaning under a burden which it was never designed to carry, will be sufficiently augmented so as to prevent the perennial locking-off of water in the Kingstown area from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Chapter II : Communications

SHIPPING

In consequence of the priorities and other adverse transport conditions following in the wake of the war's termination, there has been no full-scale resumption of the regular steamship, passenger and cargo services to and from the Colony which were previously operative.

Occasional cargo calls continue, however, to be made by vessels of the Canadian National and Alcoa Steamship Lines, and these offer at the same time limited passenger accommodation, which is supplemented by the periodic opportunities offered both north-bound and south-bound by visits from ships of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

AIR

The Colony suffered a setback when (in May, 1945) British West Indian Airways decided that the airfield at Diamond was unsuitable for the further operation of a service by the Company's aircraft.

Since February, 1946, arrangements have been made whereby one of the aircraft owned by the British Guiana Airways operates a fortnightly service to and from Trinidad. This, however, provides accommodation for only six passengers.

ROADS

The Six-year Road Reconstruction Scheme did not escape its share of obstacles. Necessary equipment ordered since 1945 failed to arrive. The three twenty-year-old rollers kept giving way under the strain; one after another they had to be towed to the repair shop. The few Public Works Department trucks proved insufficient to cope with the abnormal demand for materials. Then, not to be outdone, the old engine driving the stone-crusher and granulator soon reached the dump-heap stage. Expensive makeshifts had to be resorted to, and this, coupled with unexpected delay due now to a truck failing to arrive and now to a roller fading away on the job, were more than enough to send costs soaring above original estimates. A ray of hope appeared when new trucks arrived in the Colony about the middle of the year and the hauling capacity reached normal. In an attempt to complete a respectable portion of the first year's programme under these difficulties, work on the Vigie Highway was stopped and all available equipment concentrated on the Cane Garden Road for the rest of the year.

VEHICLES

There was great demand for motor vehicles of all types during the year, and the traffic on the roads increased considerably. The figures given below illustrate this:—

	1939	1946
Cars	129	181
Buses	15	41
Trucks	16	25
Motor Cycles	6	15
Total	<u>166</u>	<u>262</u>

Traffic signs were erected in Kingstown causing vehicles to halt at major roads and making the Middle Street a one-way street. The immediate effect was a decrease in the number of vehicular accidents. It

is hoped to erect these signs at certain road junctions in the country districts in the near future.

POSTS

There are eleven Post Money Order Offices in St. Vincent, but no Post Telegraph Office. A branch of Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Ltd., operates in the Colony.

During 1946 a total of 776,619 postal packets were dealt with, as compared with 600,116 for the year 1945.

BROADCASTING

There is no Broadcasting Station in St. Vincent.

Radios, as a public service in out-districts, have been provided by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant.

PART III

Chapter 1 : Geography and Climate

The island of St. Vincent is situated in the Caribbean Sea at longitude about $61^{\circ} 14'$ west and latitude about $13^{\circ} 9'$ north. Its total area, including its Grenadine dependencies, is about 150 square miles.

The main island is about 133 square miles in area, with a maximum length of 18 and width of 11 miles. It is roughly elliptical in shape, with its long axis approximately north-south. A backbone of thickly wooded mountains extending along the main axis divides the island into Windward and Leeward districts. The topography is very broken, and numerous spurs run down in irregular ridges from the axial range to the sea.

The climate is healthy. There are two seasons: the dry season usually extends from January to April, and the wet season from May to December. During the period December to April the weather is cooler and more pleasant. The annual range of temperature varies from 67° F. to 89° F. as a rule.

The rainfall at the Botanic Station, where records have been kept for the longest period, was 112.41 inches in 1946. This was considerably in excess of the fifty-two-year average of 100.99 for the period 1894-1945, and a marked contrast to the previous year, when only 87.27 inches were recorded at the same station. Distribution was somewhat unusual, with the heaviest monthly totals falling in September (20.14 inches) and May (13.65 inches) instead of November. The May downpours were particularly out of the ordinary, as shown by the fact that the average for that month over the fifty-two preceding years was 6.65 inches. The November rains commenced much later in the month than usual, and continued into December, with an abnormally high precipitation that produced a total of 10.66 inches, as compared with an average of 7.92 inches. The highest daily fall occurred on 4th September, when 5.53 inches fell in twenty-four hours. The total for that month was the greatest for any monthly period since November, 1941.

The highest reading of the barometer was 30.068 inches, recorded on both the 6th May and 13th July, while the lowest was 29.678, on the 12th November.

At the Kingstown Station the mean monthly temperature for 1946 was 79.47° F.; the highest was 81.05° F. for October and the lowest 77.02° F. in February. Comparison with both the 1945 figures (when the mean was 79.80° F. and the extremes 81.27° and 77.80°) and the seven-year average for 1939-45 (when the mean was 80.47° and the extremes 81.67° and 78.74°) shows that the weather in 1946 can be described as cool.

Rumours regarding activity of the Soufriere, a dormant volcano in the northern part of the island, began in 1945, and were still persistent during

the early months of 1946. In January residents in an area in fairly close proximity to the mountain left their homes. An earthquake occurred in December, 1945, and the shock recorder at the Agricultural Department, Kingstown, registered another at 12.30 on the night of 24th/25th January, 1946. It lasted approximately eight seconds.

Dr. Senn, Geologist of the British Union Oil Company, Barbados, arrived in St. Vincent on 3rd April and remained until the 16th, conducting a survey of the volcano, with a view to discovering the likelihood of eruption. Dr. Senn did not think that there was immediate danger of a catastrophe. His full report has recently been published.

At about 5.15 a.m. on the 21st May the most severe earthquake experienced in St. Vincent for many years occurred. The shock lasted approximately one minute and forty seconds. Another quake was recorded at about 8.30 p.m. on 30th July. It lasted approximately sixty-three seconds. Other slight tremors were reported during the year.

Chapter 2 : History

St. Vincent was originally inhabited by Caribs, who were living free from care in their beautiful island of Hairoun—"Home of the Blessed"—when Christopher Columbus discovered the island on the 22nd January, 1498, and named it after the Saint whose martyrdom is celebrated on that day. He sailed away, leaving the Caribs in undisputed possession—a state which they enjoyed until 1627 (129 years later), when St. Vincent was included in a patent given by King Charles I to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 England and France agreed that the island should be neutral, but in 1672 King Charles II granted it to Lord Willoughby.

Soon after Lord Willoughby received the island the first people of African origin came to St. Vincent. These were a number of slaves who had been shipwrecked in the Grenadines and eventually reached St. Vincent. They soon intermarried with the Caribs, and before long a new type of inhabitant was found in the "Black Carib". The Yellow and Black Caribs could not live happily together, and the Yellow men invited the French from Martinique to assist them in getting rid of their Black brothers. But the French found these people of virile stock hard to conquer, and returned to Martinique within a short time. A few decades later the relations between the French and the Black Caribs improved, and French settlements were made along the Leeward Coast in places which still bear French names—Chateaubelair, Petit Bordel, L'Anse Mahaut, etc. It was the French who first settled where the capital, Kingstown, now stands, along the spacious bay on the south-west, which has often reminded visitors of the words of Horace: "*Nullus in orbe sinus Baiis praelucet amoenis*". The influence of the French may still be seen in an old-fashioned paved street in the middle of Kingstown.

When the War of the Austrian Succession was brought to an end by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, St. Vincent was declared neutral, but was captured by the British only fourteen years later in 1762, in the struggle which made England mistress of Canada and India.

Soon after the conclusion of Peace in 1763, European settlers began to arrive in St. Vincent. Land that had been held by the Caribs was taken or bought for little and given to the newcomers. Such treatment infuriated the Caribs, who broke into open violence in 1772, and continued to fight for their rights for several months, until subdued by troops brought from abroad; they were obliged to come to terms, accepting as their portion of the island the fertile north-eastern section. A silver medal struck in commemoration of the signing of the Peace Treaty may be seen in the Museum of the Public Library in Kingstown. It bears the inscription: "For Peace and Prosperity to St. Vincent".

During the American War of Independence, when France declared war on Britain in 1778, St. Vincent fell into the hands of the French, largely on account of the lethargy and indifference of the Governor, who had decided to use the troops at his disposal as labourers on the estate he had acquired from the famous Carib Chief, Chatoyer. With the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in 1783, St. Vincent was restored to the English, never again to pass into foreign hands.

Before the end of the eighteenth century England and France were again at war, and the French from Martinique stirred up the Caribs to rebel. Led by Chatoyer, the insurgents offered the English much greater resistance than they had ever offered in the first Carib War, and a dreadful war would have ensued had not Chatoyer, their brilliant leader, met his death on Dorsetshire Hill, a ridge overlooking the capital; in single combat with Major Alexander Leith, whose remains lie beneath the aisle of St. George's Cathedral, Kingstown. In spite of the death of their chief, the Caribs held out until Sir Ralph Abercrombie arrived to end the war, which was waged from March, 1795, until June of the following year. The majority of Caribs, on surrendering, were deported to the island of Ruatan in the Bay of Honduras. Those who were left never again attempted to resist the English. Only a few Caribs of pure origin were to be found in the north of the island, and they may now be well described as a "vanishing race". The most interesting remains of that primitive people are the stone axes, knives, etc., now kept in the Museum of the Kingstown Library, and some large stones, probably altars, with peculiar engravings, which are to be found in different parts of the island.

After peace was restored to the island, the English planters made considerable progress. Sugar, the chief product, brought a good price, and to make it easy for planters to convey their sugar to Kingstown by land instead of by sea, the Government undertook to maintain a satisfactory road between the Carib Country, the great sugar area, and Kingstown, and constructed at Byera Hill, near Georgetown, a tunnel 250 feet long.

In the thirties of the nineteenth century a great change took place in the economic and social structure of the island. Through the efforts of Wilberforce, Clarkson, Buxton and others, slavery was abolished in 1834, and although England gave considerable compensation to the masters of slaves, they were still poorer than before their slaves were liberated, and found it extremely difficult to maintain the production of sugar as before. The former slaves were unwilling to work for low wages, and tried, as far as they could, to be independent and to acquire lands of their own. They made marked improvement, with the result that in 1851 the Lieutenant-

Governor, Sir John Campbell, could write about them: "As a general rule they possess, beyond all reasonable question, most of the essential elements of progress, and in a pre-eminent degree, natural intelligence and quickness of perception sharpened by a praiseworthy desire to better their condition."

Fourteen years after the abolition of slavery, Portuguese were imported in fairly large numbers from Madeira to work on the estates, where the Blacks had refused to work, and a little more than a decade later East Indians arrived for the same purpose. Both the Portuguese and the East Indians made progress, and are well respected throughout the island.

In the second half of the last century the price of sugar fell and a serious depression set in, which lasted until the end of the century. Before prosperity returned, the island suffered a great calamity in the hurricane of 1898, which destroyed about 300 lives and damaged many buildings. This was followed four years later by a disastrous volcanic eruption, which devastated the northern part of the island. These disasters shook the morale of the people, who for some time after seemed to be inclined to adopt an oriental fatalistic philosophy.

At the beginning of the present century steps were taken to ameliorate the condition of the people by the introduction of a peasant Land Settlement Scheme, and to assist the scheme an Agricultural School was established, which functioned for twelve years. In 1903 Sir Daniel Morris, Commissioner for Agriculture for the West Indies, introduced the growing of Sea Island cotton. But the most profitable product of the Colony is arrowroot, the monopoly of which St. Vincent still holds.

Prior to the abolition of slavery the Churches were solely responsible for Education. In 1834 Government made its first grant of £80 towards Education, and by 1849 there were twenty-seven Aided Primary Schools receiving a Government Grant of £800 per annum, and a Co-educational Secondary School was opened with a roll of nineteen pupils. But unfortunately an outbreak of yellow fever in 1853 and of cholera in 1854 crippled the finances and decimated the population of the island; and the Secondary School and most of the Primary Schools had to be closed in 1855. Education struggled on with a "chequered career" until 1908, when both Primary and Secondary education were established on a sound basis and a resident Inspector of Schools was appointed. In 1922 Government decided to award biennially a scholarship tenable for five years at any university in the British Empire.

St. Vincent is at present making progress, and presents an entirely different appearance from that of fifty years ago; and it is to be hoped that still greater progress will be made through the assistance given by the Colonial Development and Welfare Funds, which have already brought improvements, *inter alia*, in sanitation, town-planning, roads and schools.

Chapter 3 : Administration

CONSTITUTION

The Government of St. Vincent originally consisted of a Governor, Council and Assembly. In 1856 an Executive Council was created. In 1867 the Constitution was found no longer suited to the altered circumstances of the Colony, and the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were abrogated and a single Legislative Assembly was created, composed of twelve members—three *ex officio*, three nominated by the Crown and six elected by the people.

This Constitution in turn was abrogated by an Act of the local Legislature, by which the future modelling of the Constitution was left to the Crown. Until December, 1924, the Legislative Council consisted of official and unofficial members nominated and appointed by the Crown.

By an Order in Council dated March, 1924, as amended by Order in Council dated February, 1931, a partly elected Legislative Council was constituted, consisting of the Governor, three *ex officio* members, one nominated official member, one nominated unofficial member and three elected members. The island was divided into three electoral districts, each returning one elected member. It was provided that an election should take place every three years, and elections under this Constitution took place in 1925, 1928 and 1931.

The Council elected in 1931 was retained in office by Imperial Orders in Council for three further periods of one year beyond the normal term, and was finally dissolved on the 17th of December, 1936.

A new Legislative Council for the Colony of St. Vincent was constituted by Order of His Majesty in Privy Council, dated the 27th October, 1936. The unofficial representation was increased from three elected and one nominated to five elected and three nominated members, while the official membership was reduced to two in number. The Colony was divided into five electoral districts, the Grenadines for the first time being constituted a district. The opening session of the new Legislative Council, at which His Excellency the then Governor, Sir Selwyn Grier, presided, was held on the 6th April, 1937.

There is an Executive Council consisting of the Administrator, the Crown Attorney and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members, and of such other persons as may be appointed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty may from time to time appoint by instrument under the Public Seal. Every member who is not an *ex officio* member vacates his seat at the end of six years. Every member is eligible for re-appointment.

The municipal affairs of the town of Kingstown are under the control of the Kingstown Board, which consists of four elected and four nominated members. The Board is elected every two years.

JUDICIAL

A resident Puisne Judge presides over the Supreme Court of the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands in St. Vincent. The Supreme

Court has an Appellate, a Civil and a Criminal Jurisdiction, and also hears matters in its Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Jurisdictions.

The Colony is divided into three Magisterial Districts. Districts I and II consist of the islands of St. Vincent and Bequia. District III consists of the islands of Union, Mayreau and Canouan.

There are three Magistrates, one being the Magistrate of Districts I and II, the other being the Magistrate of District III, and the third being the Additional Magistrate of the Colony.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION

In St. Vincent, apart from daily paid labourers and casual workers, Government had in its employ, at the end of the year under review, 839 persons. On the basis of the recent census this gives a ratio of one Government employee to every seventy-three of the population. Around this organisation moves the public life of the Colony—administration, health, law and order, education, agriculture, public works, business, industry, social welfare, and the other activities which go to make up an ordered society.

A Staff List showing the principal officers in the Public Service of the Colony at 31st December, 1946, is annexed as Appendix VII.

Local Government.

Town Boards exist in Kingstown, the capital, and in the following small towns :—

Georgetown,
Calliaqua,
Layou,
Barrouallie,
Chateaubelair,
Port Elizabeth, Bequia.

Kingstown Board.

The Kingstown Board is a body corporate consisting of eight persons, half of whom are elected members and the other half nominated by the Governor. The term of office is limited to two years, but members are eligible for re-election or re-nomination.

Certain changes in the Constitution of the Board are contemplated ; the most progressive will be provision for the election of all members to mark the first fifty years of the life of the Board—an event which will be celebrated in 1947.

Small Towns.

The Small Towns Regulations give power to the Governor to appoint, from year to year, as many persons as he thinks fit to be Town Wardens for each of the small towns.

Village Councils.

Legislation has been prepared for the establishment of Village Councils.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

Imperial Weights and Measures are in use.

Chapter 5: Newspapers and Periodicals

Two newspapers are published weekly—*The Times* and *The Vincentian*.

The *St. Vincent Government Gazette* is also issued weekly, while the *St. Vincent Welfare News*, sponsored by the Social Welfare Department, appears bi-monthly.

Chapter 6: Bibliography

The following is a list of the leading publications, reports and memoranda on the most important subjects connected with the Colony. A separate list of Government publications available for sale to the public is annexed as Appendix VIII.

Census, 1946 :

Preliminary Report on the Census of Agriculture by the St. Vincent Census Officer (R. N. Jack, Labour Commissioner).

Kingstown Port Improvements :

I : Preliminary Report (August, 1944) by S. R. H. Beard, M.I.C.E., M.I.Mech.E., Harbour Engineer, Trinidad.

II : Supplementary Report (October, 1944).

Telephone System :

I : Report by C. J. Keith, General Superintendent of Plant, Trinidad Consolidated Telephones, Ltd., on survey of the St. Vincent Telephone System, carried out 16th–30th March, 1945.

II : Report (May, 1946) by Preece, Cardew & Rider, Consulting Engineers to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, on the St. Vincent Telephone System.

Road System :

Memorandum (January, 1944) by the Superintendent of Public Works (G. A. Grant) on a Ten-Year Road Construction Scheme for St. Vincent.

Agricultural Policy :

Memorandum on an "Agricultural Policy for St. Vincent" (as presented by the Land Settlement and Development Board, and adopted by the Legislative Council, 1946).

Land Settlement :

I : Land Settlement and Development Ordinance, 1945.

II : Memorandum (1944) by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

Forestry :

I : Report (1944) on Forestry in St. Vincent by the Conservator of Forests, Trinidad and Tobago, after preliminary visits by J. S. Beard, Assistant Conservator.

II : Forests Ordinance, 1945.

III : Crown Lands Regulations, 1946.

IV : Crown Lands Forests Produce Rules, 1946.

Soil Conservation :

Memorandum (1944) by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

Arrowroot Industry :

I : Memorandum (1944) by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.) on Arrowroot Research.

II : Report by A. R. Williamson, B.Sc., on the Organisation, Technique and Equipment of the Industry in St. Vincent, together with recommendations for its future.

III : Memorandum (1944) by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.) on Co-operative Arrowroot Factories.

Government Cotton Ginnery :

Memorandum (1944) by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

Agriculture Credit :

I : Memorandum by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

II : Report on an Investigation of Credit Facilities for Small Cultivators in the Windward Islands (1945) by E. L. Jack, Chairman of the Jamaica Loans Societies Board.

Marketing of Local Produce :

Memorandum by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

Agricultural Staff :

Memorandum by the Superintendent of Agriculture (C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., D.I.C.T.A., M.S.).

Fishing Industry :

Memorandum (1945) on the Industry in St. Vincent and the St. Vincent Grenadines by Dr. H. H. Brown, M.A., Ph.D., Director of Fishery Investigations in the British West Indies.

Hydro-Electric Development :

Memorandum (1946) on Electricity Supply and Proposed Hydro-Electric Development in St. Vincent by George Roddam, Hydraulic and Electric Engineer and Water Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

Tourist Development :

Hotels Aid Bill.

Medical and Public Health Services :

Proposals for a Policy for the Medical Department, St. Vincent, particularly in respect of the Ten Year Period 1946-56, by the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. W. L. Webb, M.B., D.P.H.).

Malaria Investigation :

Report of a Malaria Survey (1944) of St. Vincent by Dr. L. J. Charles, M.B., Malariologist, Leeward-Windward Islands.

Housing and Slum Clearance (Town and Country Development) :

I : Report upon a Survey of Housing and Sanitary Conditions undertaken in St. Vincent during 1940-42 by the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. W. L. Webb, M.B., D.P.H.).

II : Report on Town and Country Planning and Housing in St. Vincent (1944) by R. Gardiner-Medwin, Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

III : Second Report on Town and Country Planning and Housing in St. Vincent (1944) by R. Gardiner-Medwin, Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

IV : Town and Country Planning Ordinance, 1946.

V : Slum Clearance and Housing Ordinance, 1946.

Education in St. Vincent :

I : Memoranda (1943) by S. A. Hammond, C.M.G., M.A., Educational Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

II : Memorandum (1946) on " Suggestions for a School Building Programme " by the Education Officer (J. W. Forrest, M.A.).

Social Welfare :

I : Report (1943) on Social Welfare in the Windward Islands by T. S. Simey, sometime Social Welfare Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

II : Report on a Visit to St. Vincent, 1945, by Miss D. Ibberson, Social Welfare Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

Water Supplies :

Report (1945) on Water Supplies and Water Power in St. Vincent by George Roddam, M.I.E.E., Water Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

Civil Service:

Report (1944) of Committee under the Chairmanship of K. W. Blackburne, C.M.G., O.B.E., Administrative Secretary to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, on questions of Staffing of Government Departments and of Salaries of Civil Servants in St. Vincent.

Economic :

I : Memorandum on " The National Income of St. Vincent, 1942 " by Dr. Frederic Benham, Ph.D., B.Sc.(Econ.), sometime Economic Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

II : Report (1943) on the Public Finances of St. Vincent, by Dr. Frederic Benham, Ph.D., B.Sc., (Econ.)

Volcanic Investigations :

" A Geological Investigation at the Soufriere Volcano, April, 1946," by Dr. A Senn, Geologist attached to the British Union Oil Co., Ltd., Barbados.

Scientific Surveys :

" The Geology of St. Vincent and the Neighbouring Grenadines ", by Kenneth W. Earle, M.Sc., F.G.S.

Handbook :

Handbook of St. Vincent, by R. M. Anderson, M.B.E.

APPENDIX I

Brief Survey of Social and Economic Progress, St. Vincent, in respect of the period 1939-45

INTRODUCTORY

The last published Annual Report on the Colony of St. Vincent is that in respect of the year 1938, the exigencies of war necessitating the suspension of the report for the years 1939-45.

The administrative machinery remained the same during the period, but certain new organs of administration had to be created to cope with new functions imposed by the war, notably the Controller of Supplies Department, the necessity for which still exists. In addition, reorganisation and expansion went on apace in most Government Departments to meet the demands of war-time and to deal with the expanded programmes of work as a result of the new impetus given the Colony's progress by the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts of 1940 and 1945.

The years under review saw the initiation and development of a considerable number of schemes designed to advance the well-being of the people of St. Vincent, in spite of shortages of labour and materials coupled with other war-time difficulties. The improved position in local revenue and grants from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds have been largely responsible for the measure of progress which has been achieved.

PUBLIC FINANCE

The extent to which development was possible may best be illustrated by certain figures. Local revenue, which had reached £101,588 for 1938, was estimated to produce £112,170 in 1943. But the actual total realised was the record figure of £162,421, or an increase of £50,251 over the estimate. By the end of 1945 local revenue had reached the peak of £189,639.

Over and above the proportion of local revenue which it was possible to hypothecate to social and economic services, a sum of approximately £290,000 was made available to St. Vincent to augment expenditure on such services from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds during the period under review. Details of the progressive expansion of revenue and expenditure both from local and Colonial Development and Welfare sources will be found in Chapter 3, Part II.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

So far as is known at present, St. Vincent is devoid of mineral wealth. Economic development must therefore depend on the efficient develop-

ment and organisation of its agricultural industries and industries ancillary to its agricultural production. With this end in view, no efforts have been spared to formulate plans and determine agricultural policy during recent years.

AGRICULTURAL, FORESTS, FISHERIES

The St. Vincent Agricultural Policy Report has been adopted by the Legislature; a series of memoranda outlining proposals for the expansion and development of the industries intimated in the previous paragraphs were submitted to the Secretary of State with applications for financial assistance under the terms of the Development and Welfare Act. As a result grants have been received, *inter alia*, for stud centres, soil conservation, establishment of agricultural experiment station and agricultural staff.

Administrative Structure.

As one would expect, the Department of Agriculture has been re-organised and its scope expanded considerably during the past few years. Personnel has been greatly increased, and three separate branches have been established for administrative, research and extension work.

The Administrative Section serves as the connecting link between the other branches of the Department and between those branches and the Administration; and it has laid down a policy directed towards combining all the resources at its disposal to produce the maximum return in agricultural progress and efficiency.

Investigational Centre.

The Research Branch was, in 1944, transferred from the six-acre Experiment Station in Kingstown to Camden Park Estate, which covers nearly 400 acres, but progress has been handicapped by lack of buildings. In spite of these difficulties, work has commenced on crop and animal improvement. The experimental cotton programme carried out by the Empire Cotton-Growing Corporation between 1930 and 1944 has been maintained on a reduced scale; variety and manurial trials with arrowroot, food crops and green vegetables and rotation and strip-cropping experiments are in progress, while a livestock section of practical value to the community is gradually being established.

Under the supervision of the staff of the new Experiment Station there is also in operation a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme for the propagation of selected cacao clones and their introduction into neighbouring cacao-growing islands.

Extension Division.

A marked increase in agricultural awareness (as shown by contour cultivation and other anti-erosion measures, use of fertilisers and a desire to improve livestock) is a result of the efforts of Extension Officers. Two specific examples may be cited to illustrate the achievement of this branch of the Department: (a) expansion in arrowroot acreage, which resulted in a 32 per cent. increase in starch production from the 1945-46 crop,

(b) improvement in the out-of-season shortage of local food-crops, which was so pronounced in the early years of the war.

Arrowroot.

In 1945 re-expansion of arrowroot production on peasant lands was energetically pursued by the provision of a subsidy amounting to half the cost of planting material in respect of new acreage. The scheme has achieved marked success. It must be noted that production had dropped from 43,714 barrels in 1941-42 to 22,065 barrels for the 1944-45 crop. The reasons for the decline are given below.

Arrowroot starch remained the focal point in the economy of St. Vincent, which is fortunate in having a virtual world monopoly in its production. The demand in the principal markets—namely, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the British West Indies—continued good, but stocks were low and left much room for improvement at the end of 1945. Prices during the period under review improved somewhat, but the future remained uncertain.

Sea Island Cotton and Copra.

Sea Island cotton continued to occupy an important place among local agricultural industries, while copra reached its peak of prosperity during the war years. It seems certain that it cannot occupy this position for long after world conditions return to normal and fats and oils are available from other sources.

Groundnuts.

The production of groundnuts showed a spectacular increase during the war years in response to high prices ruling in Trinidad, but the prices took a downward trend in 1945 due, it was understood, to heavy shipments being obtained from other sources.

Details of the principal exports for 1944 and 1945 will be found at Appendix VI.

There has been a fall in the production of arrowroot and Sea Island cotton since the 1942-43 crop, due mainly to—

- (a) The scarcity of labour resulting from the emigration of labour to the relatively high-wage Aruba and Trinidad fields of employment ;
- (b) The difficulty and high cost of transport due to the shortage of motor tyres, and
- (c) The high prices obtained in Trinidad for alternative crops—*e.g.*, ground provisions, cassava starch and peanuts.

While there was a decline in the staple products and a rise in the cost of living, working people for the time scarcely felt it, owing to the cushioning effect of the factors mentioned at (a) and (c) above—namely, the very considerable cash remittances sent home by Vincentians abroad and the high price obtained in the Trinidad market for Vincentian products. In addition, wages have risen and hours of work diminished.

Three other features in the economic life of the Colony which

were receiving close attention at the end of the period under review concerned:—

(i) *Land Settlement.*

Government's policy was defined in 1943, and later, in 1944, the Secretary of State approved a free grant of £50,000 to finance the operations of the Land Settlement and Development Board, which was instituted by statute in 1945. Meanwhile the start made in the development of the Snagg Estate (1,600 acres), which comprises the greater part of the island of Canouan in the Southern Grenadines and also the Union Estate (184 acres) in the island of Bequia, had made some progress.

(ii) *Forestry.*

It was decided that local forests should be worked more fully under a scheme which would also provide for the systematic replanting of selected areas with desirable species of trees. [Steps were taken to implement this policy in 1946.]

(ii) *Fisheries.*

An application for assistance under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act was submitted in 1945 with a view to providing recurrent expenditure required for a small staff and the undertaking of small *ad hoc* investigations, as well as for capital expenditure, to improve the fishing industry. [A grant of £4,610 under Scheme D.662 was approved in 1946 to cover a period of five years.]

At the end of 1945 the people of the Colony were looking forward to increased activity in the exploration of the resources of the Colony from the woodlands, the cultivated fields and the surrounding seas in the interest of full employment and an improved standard of living.

SOCIAL SERVICES

While much attention was devoted during the period under review to improving the material conditions necessary to the physical well-being of the people of the Colony, the extension of the educational and other agencies which make for better social organisation has not been overlooked.

EDUCATION

Proposals for the improvement of education facilities in St. Vincent were submitted to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare by the Educational Adviser, and by November, 1943, grants to implement these proposals were approved to the extent of a sum no less than £133,650. A number of the schemes still await the outcome of the vexed question of dual control; supply difficulties have held up work on the school-building programme, but several important phases of the development plan have been carried into effect.

The Board of Education drew up a full building programme, which embraces thirty-eight localities, involving the acquisition of plots which would contain space for gardens and playgrounds and teachers'

houses. The total cost of these plots is estimated at a little over £10,000.

It is interesting to note that Government has decided, so far as financial commitments will allow, to purchase these lands from public funds. Indeed, it is Government's policy to assist in financing Colonial Development and Welfare schemes whenever it is possible to do so.

As an earnest of this policy it may be mentioned that the expenditure entailed in the revision of the salaries of the teachers in both Primary Schools and Secondary Schools has been shouldered by local funds. The new scales were introduced in 1945 but made retroactive to the 1st January, 1944. A comparison of the old and new scales for Primary School Teachers may not be amiss: minimum emoluments have risen from £50 p.a. to £88 (men) and £66 (women), the maximum from £162 10s. to £244, and the average from £99 to £127.

Legislation to provide for pensions on the same conditions as for the Civil Service has been passed.

A new Pupil-Teacher system recommended by the Educational Adviser, in which the Pupil Teachers teach for half the day and study for the other half, instead of teaching all day as under the old system, was instituted in 1944, and progress is regarded as satisfactory. Two supervising teachers have been appointed to assist with their instruction, and three more teachers were taking the special course for supervising teachers at the Trinidad Training College for Teachers during 1945.

Vacation Courses held at Christmas and Easter recesses have been a feature since 1944. Classes are held in teaching methods, agriculture, carpentry, domestic science, singing, art and handwork.

Colonial Development and Welfare assistance is now available for the purchase of books and equipment, and it is reported that attendance has improved as a result of more adequate supplies of school requisites.

Two five-year and one three-year scholarships, tenable at local Secondary Schools, were offered to local scholars by three public-spirited gentlemen in 1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Emphasis has been laid on the development of prevention measures by the Medical Service by the establishment of a Health Centre at Belair with assistance from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. This institution is intended to be the Colony teaching centre in prevention methods for qualified nurses, dispensers and sanitary inspectors, where they will learn to apply such methods to the districts to which they will subsequently be posted. The activities of the Institute at the end of 1945 were limited to a Day Nursery, where children's attendants and senior school-girls are taught the proper care of infants and toddlers, a school medical service, clinics for mothers and expectant mothers and for children, and a yaws and venereal diseases clinic.

Under an approved scheme for the improvement to Rural Hospitals and Dispensaries the following buildings were erected:—

- (a) Dispensary and Nurses' quarters at Barrouallie and Camden Park.
- (b) Six-bedded hospital at Belair.

Improved Housing.

A housing survey of the whole Colony was completed and published. A special survey of Kingstown was then undertaken at the suggestion of the Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare, and proposals based on it for the rebuilding of slum areas were subsequently prepared.

Water Supplies.

A scheme designed to provide a pipe-borne supply of pure water to 90 per cent. of the Colony's inhabitants awaited the day when pipe-lines and fittings became available to be put into execution. Meanwhile relief has been afforded to a considerable number of communities by means of wells, catchments, enclosure of springs, and in one case by the provision of a small piped supply from old pipes dug up from an abandoned water service.

General Sanitation.

A start in building up the efficiency of the Sanitary Service to a high level was made (a) by sending Sanitary Inspectors to undergo training in British Guiana, leading to the certificate awarded by the Royal Sanitary Institute, and (b) by holding classes in St. Vincent for the local Sanitary Inspectors' examination, which are attended by nurses and interested members of the community who serve as a medium through which sanitary principles reach a wider public.

LABOUR AND TRADE UNIONS

A Labour Department was created in 1937 and placed under a Labour Commissioner, who was assisted by a Clerical Assistant, but within recent years the activities of the Department have grown to such an extent that re-organisation has had to be carried out and the staff increased to ensure adequate machinery for the proper inspection and supervision of the conditions under which labour is employed.

Labour Legislation.

The under-mentioned legislation affecting labour were the principal enactments during the period under review:—

- (a) The Department of Labour Ordinance No. 14 of 1942, which made provision for the appointment of a Labour Advisory Board comprising four representatives of workers and four of employees, under the Chairmanship of the Crown Attorney. The Labour Commissioner acts as Liaison Officer.
- (b) The Department of Labour (Power and Duties of Labour Commissioner) Order . . . No. 19 of 1943, which extended the powers of the Labour Commissioner to deal with matters affecting all classes of workers in the Colony.

- (c) The Recruiting of Workers (Amendment) Regulations, No. 26 of 1944, which fixed the maximum period of service for workers recruited for employment outside the Colony.
- (d) The Labourer's Occupancy of Land Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance No. 10 of 1944, which provides better security of tenure to evicted worker-tenants by prohibiting the issue of warrants for a period of six months from the date of service of the original notice to quit in order to permit them to secure other suitable housing accommodation.

Wages.

The basic rates of minimum wages for agricultural workers—namely, 1s. 7d. and 1s. 3d. per day of eight hours to a man and a woman respectively, to which was added a War Bonus of 10 per cent. with effect from 15th January, 1945—were increased to 2s. and 1s. 6d., together with the existing bonus of 10 per cent. with effect from 15th October, 1945.

The rates of wages for Government road-workers were reviewed accordingly. In commercial and industrial undertakings increases in wages of workers ranging from 20 per cent. to 40 per cent. on the pre-war rates were granted.

Cost of Living.

The Cost-of-Living Index figure for all items at the end of December, 1945, in so far as working-class families were concerned, was 190. Spasmodic efforts were made to subsidise essential commodities, but the sums required proved beyond the financial resources of the Colony. An amount of £10,000 which was budgeted for in 1944 was absorbed within three months in the subsidisation of rice (second quality) and flour.

Trade Unions.

Progress in Trade Union development had been slow until 1945, when two Unions were registered—

- (a) A Union of St. Vincent Peasant Cultivators on the 12th June, 1945.
- (b) A Union of St. Vincent General Workers on the 15th December, 1945.

The Planters Association, which was formed in 1940, continued to take an active interest in matters affecting the agricultural welfare of the Colony.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Early in 1945 a Social Welfare Department was established with assistance under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. As an activity of Government, Social Welfare is a novelty in St. Vincent, but it is by no means new as an activity both of the Churches and the general public, though it may have been called by different names. One of the

prime duties of the new organisation is to integrate the existing services. Among his other duties, it is intended that the Social Welfare Officer will be in a position to interpret the Government to the people as well as the people to the Government.

The St. Vincent Welfare News.

The Department publishes bi-monthly *The St. Vincent Welfare News*, giving factual information bearing on the activities of the clubs affiliated to it. This organ also reviews governmental activities of general interest, and provides a link with social welfare activities elsewhere in the British Caribbean. By the close of 1945 circulation had reached the creditable figure of 850 copies. There can be no doubt that this publication has been responsible for bringing about some awareness of the objectives implicit in Social Welfare.

Other services provided during the first year of the inception of the Department may be itemised as follows:—

(a) *Social Security.* A start was made in this direction by the appointment of a Poor Relief and Probation Officer, who proceeded to Trinidad to undergo a special course of training prior to re-organisation of the Poor Relief and Probation Services.

(b) *Rural Services.* Ten Women's Clubs were started by the Assistant Social Welfare Officer and eleven 4-H Clubs by the Group Organiser. Members of these clubs were encouraged to form Thrift Clubs, and there were several of these in existence at the end of the year.

(c) *Leisure-Time Facilities.* (i) Plans were set afoot for a Youth Centre in Kingstown. The proposals envisaged the enlargement of a building in the Treasury yard to serve as a headquarters for meetings and games for all affiliated Youth Groups in the island, and adjacent lands for a tennis-court, netball field and kitchen garden. A grant of £300 was approved to aid the project from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. (ii) A further grant of £500 was approved to finance a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme to provide a permanent Camping Site at Camden Park.

(d) *Exhibition.* An Arts and Crafts Exhibition, which is intended to be an annual affair, was held during the year to encourage craftsmanship, set standards and educate "good taste".

(e) *Delinquency Services.* Mr. F. A. Casson generously made a gift of land for a site for the erection of a Juvenile Delinquents' Farm-home. The whole question of juvenile delinquency and the provision of suitable institutions in these Colonies had been currently receiving consideration.

An interesting development concerned a scheme which was initiated by the Anglican Church for the creation of homes for waifs and strays. Some fifty acres of land at Fairhall were made available through the generosity of Mr. Lewis Punnett. By the end of 1945 sufficient funds had been raised to make a start, and it is expected that the State will give material support to this plan.

It will be seen that some effort has been made at expansion of the social services with assistance under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, but having regard to the fact that St. Vincent is dependent for economic prosperity on its agricultural industries, the time seems far distant when economic development will reach the point where it can provide Government with the means of raising the finance necessary for the maintenance of adequate social services.

APPENDIX

Statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the

		LIABILITIES.			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Deposits:—					
C.D. and Welfare Schemes Advances		651	16 4		
Controller of Supplies Trading Account		27,376	19 8		
Cotton Growers' Association Account		397	15 8		
Graham Bequest Fund		5,540	19 7		
Hayward X-Ray Fund		33	19 3		
Dominica Government of		231	0 6		
Grenada Government of		2,560	6 11		
Home Fund		356	0 6		
Motor Vehicles, His Majesty's Government		4,220	3 11		
Musgrave Prize Fund		85	10 0		
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		1,978	7 11		
Reserve Fund for Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930		770	11 7		
Savings Bank Account		87,288	4 4		
Simmons Bequest Fund		124	14 0		
Sundry Deposits		7,373	4 9		
				138,989	14 11
Cotton Factory:—					
Cotton Working Account		11,091	4 6		
Cotton Factory Depreciation Fund		6,401	2 2		
				17,492	6 8
Town Funds:—					
Barrouallie		83	15 11		
Calliaqua		110	8 6		
Chateaubelair		36	6 6		
Georgetown		670	17 5		
Kingstown		1,078	11 4		
Layou		74	1 8		
Port Elizabeth		106	4 6		
				2,160	5 10
Drafts and Remittances				9,904	14 1
Special Accounts:—					
Electric Light Plant Depreciation Fund		1,914	19 10		
Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939 Expenditure		25	9 0		
Extension Electric Lighting System			4 7		
Motor Launch Depreciation Fund		184	7 5		
Permanent Investment Eruption Fund		25,000	0 0		
Public Property Insurance Fund		8,695	5 9		
Public Purposes Loan (1937) Windward Highway Expenditure			3 17 9		
Refrigeration Plant Depreciation Fund		1,827	0 4		
Reserve Fund for C.D.F. Loan for Housing Scheme		2,555	5 5		
Land Settlement Loan, 1932		2,141	10 11		
Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934		769	15 1		
				43,117	16
Surplus:—					
Colony's Reserve Fund		20,205	5 1		
General Revenue Balance Account:					
Balance at 1.1.45	£	s. d.			
Surplus and Deficit Account for 1945	68,352	19 6			
	34,396	8 10			
	33,956	10 8			
Appreciation of Investments	542	2 0			
			34,498	12 8	
				54,703	17 9
				£266,368	15 4

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1945, was £78,388 17s. 9d., made up as follows:—*Debenture Holders for:* (1) Land Settlement Loan, 1932-35, £4,100; (2) Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934, £1,000; (3) Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930, £800; (4) Public Purposes Loan, 1937, £9,060; (5) Telephone Reconstruction Loan, 1938, £1,500; (6) *Crown Agents for Electric Light, Telephone and Road Reconstruction*, £26,635 10s. 3d.; (7) Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939, £3,636 7s. 3d.; *Colonial Development Fund:* (8) Loan for St. Vincent Co-operative Arrowroot Association, £14,926 17s. 2d. (a); (9) Loan for Roads Improvement, £3,672 11s. 2d.; (10) Loan for Housing Scheme, £3,725 13s. 5d.; (11) Loan for Ice and Cold Storage Plant, £3,999 3s. 9d.; (12) Loan for Public Health, £39 19s. 0d.; and (13) Loan for Syrup Investigations, £1,025 11s. 11d. *Colonial Development and Welfare:* Loan for Union Estate, Bequia, £1,133 3s. 10d.; Loan for Purchase of Camden Park Estate, £2,334. Total £78,388 17s. 9d.

DIX II

Colony of St. Vincent at 31st December, 1945

		ASSETS.					
				£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Cash :—</i>							
Barclays Bank, Current Account			8,576	11 5		
Barclays Bank, Deposit Account				14 4		
Crown Agents Joint Colonial Fund			24,000	0 0		
In Treasury Chest			921	13 9		
In Sub-Accountants' Hands			431	17 5		
Crown Agents Current Account			788	19 8		
						34,719	16 7
Loan to His Majesty's Government					25,000	0 0
<i>Advances :—</i>							
Authorised Advances			17,407	16 5		
Post Office Account			7,851	19 5		
St. Lucia Government of			110	0 7		
						25,369	16 5
<i>Investments :—</i>							
Colony's Reserve Fund			20,200	9 8		
Colony's Surplus Fund			47,184	9 7		
Cotton Factory Depreciation Fund			6,401	2 2		
Electric Light Plant Depreciation Fund			2,036	12 2		
Graham Bequest Fund			5,902	10 2		
Home Fund			356	0 6		
Reserve Fund for Colonial Development Fund Loan for Housing Scheme			2,553	18 10		
Reserve Fund for Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930			770	11 7		
Reserve Fund for Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934			769	15 1		
Reserve Fund for Land Settlement Loan, 1932			2,141	10 11		
Motor Launch Depreciation Fund			184	7 5		
Musgrave Prize Fund			85	10 0		
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund			1,791	3 10		
Public Property Insurance Fund			8,695	5 9		
Refrigeration Plant Depreciation Fund			1,827	0 4		
Simmons Bequest Fund			26	9 1		
Savings Bank Fund			80,352	5 3		
						181,279	2 4
						£266,368	15 4

The accumulated funds for redemption were £23,138 13s. : (1) Land Settlement Loan, 1932-35, £2,141 10s. 11d.; (2) Lowmans-Biabou Water Supply Loan, 1934, £769 15s. 1d.; (3) Kingstown Board Water Supply Loan, 1930, £770 11s. 7d. (a); (4) Public Purposes Loan, 1937, £5,070 3s. 3d.; (5) Telephone Reconstruction Loan, 1938, £740 6s. 5d.; (6) Crown Agents for Electric Light, Telephone and Road Reconstruction, £10,182 11s. 4d.; (7) Electricity Generating Unit Loan, 1939, £908 9s.; (8) C.D.F. Loan for Housing Scheme, £2,555 5s. 5d. Total £23,138 13s.

(a) General Revenue is responsible only in case of default.

NOTE.—At 31st December, 1945, the sum of £29,583 was owing on account of Colonial Development and Welfare and Relief Schemes and £1,465 19s. 9d. in respect of Defence Security Measures.

**Comparative Statement of Revenue for the period 1st January to
31st December, 1945**

<i>Heads of Revenue</i>	<i>Estimate for the year 1945 £</i>	<i>Actual Revenue for the period of the return £ s. d.</i>	<i>Revenue for same period of preceding year £ s. d.</i>	<i>Increase £ s. d.</i>	<i>Decrease £ s. d.</i>
1. Customs :—					
Import	65,000	68,383 1 3	76,790 11 8	—	8,407 10 5
Export	9,000	8,705 16 4	8,401 12 6	304 3 10	—
Warehouse Rent	600	563 2 5	500 17 3	62 5 2	—
2. Port and Harbour Dues :—					
Tonnage	1,000	1,267 16 7	655 17 9	611 18 10	—
Port	200	235 7 6	145 16 3	89 11 3	—
3. Licences, Excise and In- ternal Revenue :—					
Licences, Liquor	1,200	1,624 10 0	1,310 5 0	314 5 0	—
" Other	2,748	2,497 9 3	2,783 11 7	—	286 2 4
Excise	29,000	23,907 8 11	18,927 17 7	4,979 11 4	—
Land and House Tax	7,000	6,046 7 11	6,152 2 8	—	105 14 9
Income Tax	22,000	21,845 15 10	21,792 14 4	53 1 6	—
Other Internal Revenue	8,435	13,472 14 3	10,562 1 1	2,910 13 2	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	8,842	11,912 9 10	10,584 16 4	1,327 13 6	—
5. Post Office	8,376	12,601 2 6	10,626 11 4	1,974 11 2	—
6. Electricity and Telephones	9,785	11,360 8 1	10,333 3 5	1,027 4 8	—
7. Rent of Government Pro- perty	358	460 6 4	330 8 0	129 18 4	—
8. Interest and Refunds of Loans	1,805	2,018 8 1	1,739 13 2	278 14 11	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	170	560 2 9	309 12 3	250 10 6	—
10. Sales and Leases of Crown Lands	2,090	2,060 13 11	1,580 6 9	480 7 2	—
11. Refunds of Loans from General Revenue	177,609	189,523 1 9	183,527 18 11	14,794 10 4	8,799 7 6
	236	115 5 0	370 19 7	—	255 14 7
12. Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	177,845	189,638 6 9	183,898 18 6	14,794 10 4	9,055 2 1
13. Grants from Imperial Gov- ernment	19,886	26,057 4 9	23,778 5 2	2,278 19 7	—
	1,400	—	—	—	—
Total Revenue	£199,131	£215,695 11 6	£207,677 3 8	£17,073 9 11	£9,055 2 1

Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1945

Heads of Expenditure	Estimate for the year 1945	Actual Expendi- ture for the period of the return		Expenditure for same period of preceding year		Increase		Decrease	
	£	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	8,959	8,815	7 3	8,889	0 1	—	—	73	12 10
2. Pensions	7,808	7,399	5 2	7,622	4 11	—	—	222	19 9
3. Governor and Legislature	3,844	4,034	8 0	3,165	11 10	868	16 2	—	—
4. Government Office	3,997	4,093	14 0	3,183	11 11	910	2 1	—	—
5. Treasury, Customs, Port and Excise	9,511	9,067	0 10	6,973	0 7	2,094	0 3	—	—
6. Audit Department	1,113	1,061	7 4	897	4 8	164	2 8	—	—
7. Post Office	6,009	6,219	19 11	6,161	9 6	58	10 5	—	—
8. Judicial Department	2,958	3,478	3 3	—	—	—	—	—	—
8(a). Legal Department	838	783	1 10	3,086	1 7	1,175	3 6	—	—
9. Police	12,667	12,141	0 10	10,042	17 1	2,098	3 9	—	—
10. Prisons	2,948	3,369	7 8	2,578	10 2	790	17 6	—	—
11. Local Forces	420	420	0 0	525	0 0	—	—	105	0 0
12. Labour Administration	1,082	1,122	6 6	1,013	2 7	109	3 11	—	—
13. Poor Relief	2,532	2,334	2 1	2,079	13 8	254	8 5	—	—
14. St. Vincent Grenadines District	1,299	1,466	2 3	1,124	4 7	341	17 8	—	—
15. Agricultural Department	4,307	4,068	6 5	3,567	15 4	500	11 1	—	—
16. Education	24,419	25,009	13 8	17,844	19 0	7,164	14 8	—	—
17. Medical Department	28,509	27,636	18 8	26,866	7 6	770	11 2	—	—
18. Miscellaneous	17,225	31,337	16 6	18,525	3 5	12,812	13 1	—	—
19. Subventions	1,475	1,464	0 0	985	6 8	478	13 4	—	—
20. Electricity and Telephones Department	8,503	10,035	0 3	9,596	6 1	438	14 2	—	—
21. Public Works and Crown Lands	5,519	5,192	18 5	3,468	7 6	1,724	10 11	—	—
22. Public Works Recurrent	15,956	17,304	18 10	10,042	5 6	7,262	13 4	—	—
23. Public Works Extraordinary	171,898	187,854	19 8	148,238	4 2	40,018	8 1	401	12 7
24. Loans from Gen. Revenue	178,209	196,212	1 2	152,674	10 8	43,939	3 1	401	12 7
25. War Expenditure	178,329	196,601	1 2	152,674	10 8	44,328	3 1	401	12 7
26. Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes	16,927	49,215	14 5	18,515	18 11	30,699	15 6	—	—
Total Expenditure	£203,859	£250,092	0 4	£185,037	16 1	£75,027	18 7	£9,973	14 4

APPENDIX III

Customs Tariff

ARTICLE	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF	GENERAL TARIFF
Boots and Shoes (canvas with rubber soles)	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Boots and Shoes (where the outer part of the uppers is made of leather or leather and elastic)	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> and 3s. per pair
Boots and Shoes (other kinds)	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	18¾ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Flour, wheaten	5s. per 196 lb.	7s. 6d. per 196 lb.
Fish, dried	1s. 3d. per 100 lb.	3s. 4d. per 100 lb.
Rice	1s. 3d. per 100 lb.	3s. per 100 lb.
Machinery—electrical marine, water and sewerage and industrial	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Machinery—agricultural	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	10 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Sugar, refined	6s. 6d. per 100 lb.	9s. 9d. per 100 lb.
Sugar, unrefined	2s. 1d. per 100 lb.	6s. 3d. per 100 lb.
Hardware—all kinds	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	22½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Hosiery—cotton and cotton and artificial silk 7d. and under per pair value	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> and 6d. per pair
Hosiery—cotton and cotton and artificial silk over 7d. per pair value	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> and 7d. per pair
Hosiery—silk	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> and 9d. per pair
Bread, biscuits, etc., unsweetened	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.	2s. 6d. per 100 lb.
Bread, other kinds	12s. 6d. per 100 lb.	25s. per 100 lb.
Cement	4d. per 100 lb.	2s. per 100 lb.
Milk, condensed or preserved	4s. 2d. per 100 lb.	8s. 4d. per 100 lb.
Milk, other kinds	12½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>	18¾ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i>
Cheese	10s. per 100 lb.	25s. per 100 lb.
Oils, edible, lucca, olive and similar oils, cotton seed, soya bean, etc.	1s. per gallon	1s. 6d. per gallon
Kerosene	3d. per gallon	3d. per gallon
Lubricating	10d. per gallon	1s. 3d. per gallon

ARTICLE	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF	GENERAL TARIFF
Oils, Paint	8 <i>d.</i> per gallon	1 <i>s.</i> per gallon
Medicinal	9 <i>d.</i> per gallon	1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> per gallon
Motor Spirit, etc.	10½ <i>d.</i> per gallon	1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per gallon
Soap, fancy	12½ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	18¾ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>
Soap, common	5 <i>s.</i> per 100 lb.	7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per 100 lb.
Tobacco, manufactured— cigars and cigarettes	10 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i> per lb.	15 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> per lb.
Tobacco, snuffs and other manufactured tobacco	5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per lb.	8 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> per lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured, leaf-black	2 <i>s.</i> per lb.	2 <i>s.</i> per lb.
Tobacco, leaf—other kinds	5 <i>s.</i> per lb.	5 <i>s.</i> per lb.
Wood, lumber	7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per 1,000 ft.	11 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> per 1,000 ft.
Motor cars and trucks	10 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	35 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>
Motor cars (wholly British)	7½ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	—
Motor-car parts	10 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	35 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>
Motor-car parts (wholly British)	7½ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	
Motor-car tyres and tubes	15 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	35 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>
Meats—beef and pork	6 <i>s.</i> per 100 lb.	9 <i>s.</i> per 100 lb.
Metals	12½ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	22½ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>
Manures	Free	Free
Butter	10 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i> per 100 lb.	25 <i>s.</i> per 100 lb.
Butter substitutes	4 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> per 100 lb.	6 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> per 100 lb.
Cotton piece-goods (value 1 <i>s.</i> and under per yard)	10 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	15 per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>
Cotton piece-goods (value over 1 <i>s.</i> per yard)	12½ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>	18¾ per cent. <i>ad</i> <i>valorem</i>

Except in a few instances the *ad valorem* duty levied is 12½ per cent. preferential tariff and 18¾ per cent. general tariff.

A surtax of 10 per cent., levied from 1943, is at present still collected on the duties imposed on all the items listed except Boots, Flour, Fish, Rice, Milk and Tobacco, unmanufactured, Leaf-black, which are exempt, and all other Tobacco, on which the rate is 20 per cent.

APPENDIX IV

Income Tax Rate Schedule

			s.	d.				s.	d.
On every pound of the					On every pound of the				
First	£100	.	.	5	Next	500	.	5	6
Second	100	.	.	6	"	500	.	6	0
Third	100	.	.	9	"	500	.	7	0
Fourth	100	.	.	1 0	"	2,000	.	10	0
Fifth	100	.	.	1 6	"	2,000	.	11	3
Sixth	100	.	.	2 0	"	3,500	.	12	6
Seventh	100	.	.	3 0	"	5 000	.	13	6
Eighth	100	.	.	3 6	"	5 000	.	14	0
Ninth	100	.	.	4 0	Upwards	.	.	14	6
Tenth	100	.	.	5 0					

			£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.
Tax on						Tax on					
£100	.	.	2	1	8	2,600	.	.	620	16	8
200	.	.	4	11	8	2,700	.	.	670	16	8
300	.	.	8	6	8	2,800	.	.	720	16	8
400	.	.	13	6	8	2,900	.	.	770	16	8
500	.	.	20	16	8	3,000	.	.	820	16	8
600	.	.	30	16	8	3,100	.	.	870	16	8
700	.	.	45	16	8	3,200	.	.	920	16	8
800	.	.	63	6	8	3,300	.	.	970	16	8
900	.	.	83	6	8	3,400	.	.	1,020	16	8
1,000	.	.	108	6	8 (a)	3,500	.	.	1,070	16	8
1,100	.	.	135	16	8	3,600	.	.	1,120	16	8
1,200	.	.	163	6	8	3,700	.	.	1,170	16	8
1,300	.	.	190	16	8	3,800	.	.	1,220	16	8
1,400	.	.	218	6	8	3,900	.	.	1,270	16	8
1,500	.	.	245	16	8 (b)	4,000	.	.	1,320	16	8
1,600	.	.	275	16	8	4,100	.	.	1,370	16	8
1,700	.	.	305	16	8	4,200	.	.	1,420	16	8
1,800	.	.	335	16	8	4,300	.	.	1,470	16	8
1,900	.	.	365	16	8	4,400	.	.	1,520	16	8
2,000	.	.	395	16	8 (c)	4,500	.	.	1,570	16	8
2,100	.	.	430	16	8	4,600	.	.	1,627	1	8
2,200	.	.	465	16	8	4,700	.	.	1,683	6	8
2,300	.	.	500	16	8	4,800	.	.	1,739	11	8
2,400	.	.	535	16	8	4,900	.	.	1,795	16	8
2,500	.	.	570	16	8 (d)	5,000	.	.	1,852	1	8

(a), (b), (c), (d)—Subject from these points to additional charges of 5 per cent., 10 per cent., 15 per cent., and 25 per cent., respectively.

Provided further that the amount of tax payable on a chargeable income at the rate applicable thereto shall, where necessary, be reduced

so as not to exceed the highest amount of tax which would be payable at the next lower rate, with the addition of the amount by which the chargeable income exceeds the chargeable income on which the highest amount of tax would be so payable at the lower rate.

Companies :

On every Pound . . . 5s.

APPENDIX V

Stamp Duties

	£	s.	d.
Admission to act as a barrister	26	5	0
Admission to act as a solicitor	15	15	0
Affidavit or declaration in lieu thereof		2	0
Agreement under hand, when the subject matter is of the value of £5 and not exceeding £25		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof		1	0
Agreement for the purchase of or otherwise dealing with real estate when such purchase or dealing is to be carried out by subsequent deed		2	0
Agreements not otherwise charged for			6
Appraisal of goods, chattels, etc., over the value of £10		2	0
Assignment of property where the value does not exceed £50		2	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof		2	0
Bank cheques			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes up to three days sight			1
Bills of exchange and promissory notes—other kinds—not exceeding £1			1
Exceeding £1 and not exceeding £10			2
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25			3
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50			6
Exceeding £50 and not exceeding £75			9
Exceeding £75 and not exceeding £100		1	0
For each additional £25 or part thereof exceeding £100			3
Bills of lading			3
Bills of health		4	0
Bills of sale absolute		10	0
Bills of sale by way of security		5	0
Bonds for any sum not exceeding £100		5	0
For each additional £50 or part thereof		2	6
Bottomry Bond		10	0
Bond of Indemnity, sum not specified		5	0
Conveyance or transfer on sale of real property when the amount or value does not exceed £10			1 0
Exceeding £10 and not exceeding £25			2 6
Exceeding £25 and not exceeding £50			7 6
For each additional £50 or part thereof			7 6

Certificates :—	£	s.	d.
Of admission to practise as notary	3	0	0
Of landing of goods			6
Of naturalisation	3	0	0
Of birth, marriage or death			1
Customs ships' manifests		1	0
Customs bills of entry inwards			3
Shipping bill			1½
Legacies :—			
Where the legacy amounts to £50 and does not exceed £100	2	0	0
For every additional £50 or part thereof	1	0	0
Licence for marriage	1	0	0
Mortgage of real property for every £100 or fractional part.	10	0	
Release of mortgage	10	0	
Notarial Act of any kind except Protest of a Bill of Exchange or Promissory Note		1	0
Policy of Insurance—Life :—			
For every £100 or part of amount insured		1	0
Policy of Insurance—Fire, etc. :—			
For every payment by way of indemnity			1
Power of attorney or substitution	10	0	
Protest of any bill of exchange	2	0	
Receipt for the payment of £1 and upwards			1½
Probate of wills and letters of administration where the value of the property exceeds £50 and does not exceed £100.	10	0	
For every additional £50 or part thereof	10	0	
Office copy or exemplification	2	6	

APPENDIX VI

Imports and Exports

IMPORTS

ARTICLE	QUANTITY 1945	QUANTITY 1944
Beer, Ale and Stout	14,243 gallons	7,968 gallons
Butter	96,621 lb.	54,948 lb.
Butter substitutes	11,300 lb.	20,515 lb.
Cheese	3,280 lb.	1,947 lb.
Coffee, raw and prepared	24,251 lb.	37,066 lb.
Confectionery	11,012 lb.	7,899 lb.
Fish, salted and smoked	335,435 lb.	209,115 lb.
Rice	1,398,586 lb.	923,799 lb.
Flour, wheaten	5,636,960 lb.	4,766,426 lb.
Lard	26,282 lb.	69,778 lb.
Meat, salted, etc.	58,273 lb.	115,468 lb.
Bacon and Hams	24,548 lb.	24,337 lb.
Milk, condensed	43,384 lb.	24,644 lb.

ARTICLE	QUANTITY 1945	QUANTITY 1944
Salt, coarse	1,478,960 lb.	1,074,214 lb.
Sugar, unrefined	1,964,658 lb.	2,143,903 lb.
Tea	3,772 lb.	14,724 lb.
Tobacco, unmanufactured	22,118 lb.	33,908 lb.
Cigarettes	2,611 lb.	10,794 lb.
Leaf—other kinds	31,243 lb.	19,390 lb.
Motor spirits	85,073 gallons	68,661 gallons
Painters' colours, etc.	108,376 lb.	78,632 lb.
Soap, laundry	115,483 lb.	189,536 lb.
Lumber	654,247 ft.	772,086 ft.
Boots and Shoes	2,356 doz. pairs	3,640 doz. pairs
Cement	1,028 tons	666.6 tons
Cotton Piece-goods	637,930 sq. yds.	723,723 sq. yds.
Artificial Silk Piece-goods	104,670 sq. yds.	91,654 sq. yds.
Glassware	£1,415	£2,822
Hardware	£4,755	£1,988
Metals	£11,708	£17,015

EXPORTS

Arrowroot	5,139,828 lb.	6,727,287
Coconuts	270,050 (number)	233,002 (number)
Copra	2,810,591 lb.	3,032,848
Cassava Starch	650,235 lb.	648,721 lb.
Cotton—Sea Island White	261,952 lb.	290,289 lb.
Stained	9,907 lb.	27,181 lb.
Marie Galante	78,241 lb.	Nil
Fish Oil	892 gallons	597 gallons
Goats	2,786	709
Poultry and Game	6,296	2,074
Sheep	1,908	417
Ground-nuts	406,391 lb.	282,854 lb.
Mace	7,483 lb.	6,344 lb.
Nutmegs	15,879 lb.	38,919 lb.
Peas	72,203 lb.	28,736 lb.
Plantains	5,146 bunches	1,313 bunches
Potatoes	23,995 bags	20,924 bags
Soap	64,000 lb.	99,858 lb.
Syrup and Molasses	28,903 gallons	52,880 gallons
Turtle Shell	532 lb.	114 lb.
Yams	£516	£554
Corn	17,375 lb.	1,353 lb.

APPENDIX VII

Administrative Organisation

ADMINISTRATION

Administrator (£1,000, duty allowance £200, travelling allowance £100+)—R. H. Garvey, M.B.E., M.A.

Government Secretary (£400 to £500)—Bernard Gibbs.

Special Grade Clerks (£320 to £400)—A. V. King.

A. L. Samuel (on secondment).

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

Agricultural Superintendent and Chief Forest Officer (£500 to £750, travelling allowance £127)—C. K. Robinson, M.B.E., M.S., D.I.C.T.A.

Agricultural Assistants (£300 × £12 10s. to £450, travelling allowance £100, house allowance £25).

1. Windward District—H. A. L. Francis, D.I.C.T.A.

2. Leeward District—J. L. Kidney, B.Sc.

3. Southern District—C. Munro.

Officer in Charge, Camden Park Experimental Station (£400 × £20 to £500, travelling allowance £67, and free quarters)—W. R. E. Nanton, D.I.C.T.A.

Agricultural Assistant (Livestock) (£250 to £400, travelling allowance £67, and free quarters)—E. Kirby, D.I.C.T.A.

Senior Office Assistant (Technical) (£215 to £350)—Mrs. N. Hadley.

AUDIT

Audit Clerk (£320 to £400)—I. D. B. Charles (on secondment).

EDUCATIONAL

Education Officer (£700, travelling allowance £175, all paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds)—J. W. Forrest, M.A. (Glasgow).

Inspector of Schools (£300 to £400 and travelling allowance £80+)—J. J. Antrobus (on 2 years' contract).

Headmaster, Grammar School (£400 to £500)—W. M. Lopey, M.A. (Durham).

Senior Assistant Master, Grammar School (£300 to £400)—U. G. Crick, B.A. (London).

Headmistress, Girls' High School (£400 to £450)—(vacant).

Senior Assistant Mistress, Girls' High School (£200 to £250)—(vacant).

ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE DEPARTMENT

Superintendent, Electricity and Telephone Department (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £80+)—J. P. E. Cropper, B.Sc., B.Eng.

Assistant Superintendent, Electricity and Telephone Department (£320 to £400, and travelling allowance at approved rates)—L. A. B. Samuel (on one year's contract).

JUDICIAL

Registrar, Supreme Court and Additional Magistrate (£350 to £450)—W. E. Jacobs.

Magistrate (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £80+)—S. J. Bain.

Magistrate (3rd District)—See St. Vincent Grenadines District.

LABOUR

Labour Commissioner (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £80+)—R. N. Jack.

LEGAL

Crown Attorney (£650)—P. C. Lewis.

MEDICAL

Senior Medical Officer (£800, travelling allowance £60+)—W. L. Webb.

District Medical Officers (£400 to £550, with travelling allowance ranging from £40 to £90+)—

†E. D. B. Charles,

††A. B. Brereton,

†††F. Alexis,

W. C. G. Murray,

K. J. E. McMillan,

H. A. Munro,

W. L. Cummings.

† Is also Medical Officer for Health Centres.

†† Receives also Duty Allowance of £100 as in charge Radiological Clinic.

††† Receives also Duty Allowance of £28 as Port Health Officer.

Resident Surgeon, Colonial Hospital (£550)—(vacant).

Assistant Medical Officer and Bacteriologist, Colonial Hospital (£400 to £550)—W. L. Robinson.

Nurse Matron, Colonial Hospital (£180 to £200, house allowance £38, uniform allowance £10)—Miss S. Beach.

Steward and Chief Dispenser (£250 to £350)—C. E. Daisey.

Sanitary Superintendent (£300 to £400, travelling allowance £80+)—J. L. Chapman, M.B.E.

POLICE

Superintendent of Police (£450 to £550, uniform allowance £12, travelling allowance £60+)—(vacant).

Assistant Superintendent of Police (£300 to £400, house allowance £50, uniform allowance £12, travelling allowance £50+)—D. S. Cozier.

POOR RELIEF AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Poor Relief and Probation Officer (£215 to £300, travelling allowance £50+)—F. John.

District Welfare Officer (£350 to £450, travelling allowance £50+, house allowance £50)—V. C. Josse.

POSTAL

Colonial Postmaster (£350 to £450)—G. E. E. Williams.

PRISONS

Superintendent of Prisons (£350 to £450, uniform allowance £12, and free quarters)—(vacant).

PUBLIC WORKS ROADS AND SURVEYS

Superintendent of Works (£450 to £550, travelling allowance £100+)—G. A. Grant.

Assistant Superintendent of Works (£350 to £450, travelling allowance £100+)—(vacant).

Crown Surveyor and Lands Officer (£350 to £450, travelling allowance £100+)—C. E. Belizaire.

Assistant Surveyor and Lands Officer (£250 to £350, travelling allowance £100+)—G. E. Barker.

ST. VINCENT GRENADINES

District Officer and Magistrate (£215 to £300, Duty allowance £50, travelling and subsistence allowance £80, free quarters)—V. G. I. DaSilva.

TREASURY AND CUSTOMS

Colonial Treasurer, Collector of Customs, Chief of Excise, etc. (£500 to £650, travelling allowance £55+)—L. Cools-Lartigue.

Assistant Treasurer (£400 to £500, travelling allowance £55+)—V. D. Archer.

Senior Customs Officer (£320 to £400, travelling allowance £55+)—V. P. Theobalds.

Chief Clerk and Accountant, Treasury (£320 to £400)—McD. Smith.

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Social Welfare Officer (£450 to £600, travelling allowance £100*, all paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds)—C. V. D. Hadley, B.Sc.

Assistant Social Welfare Officer (£250 to £300, travelling allowance £50+, all paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds)—Miss M. E. Byer.

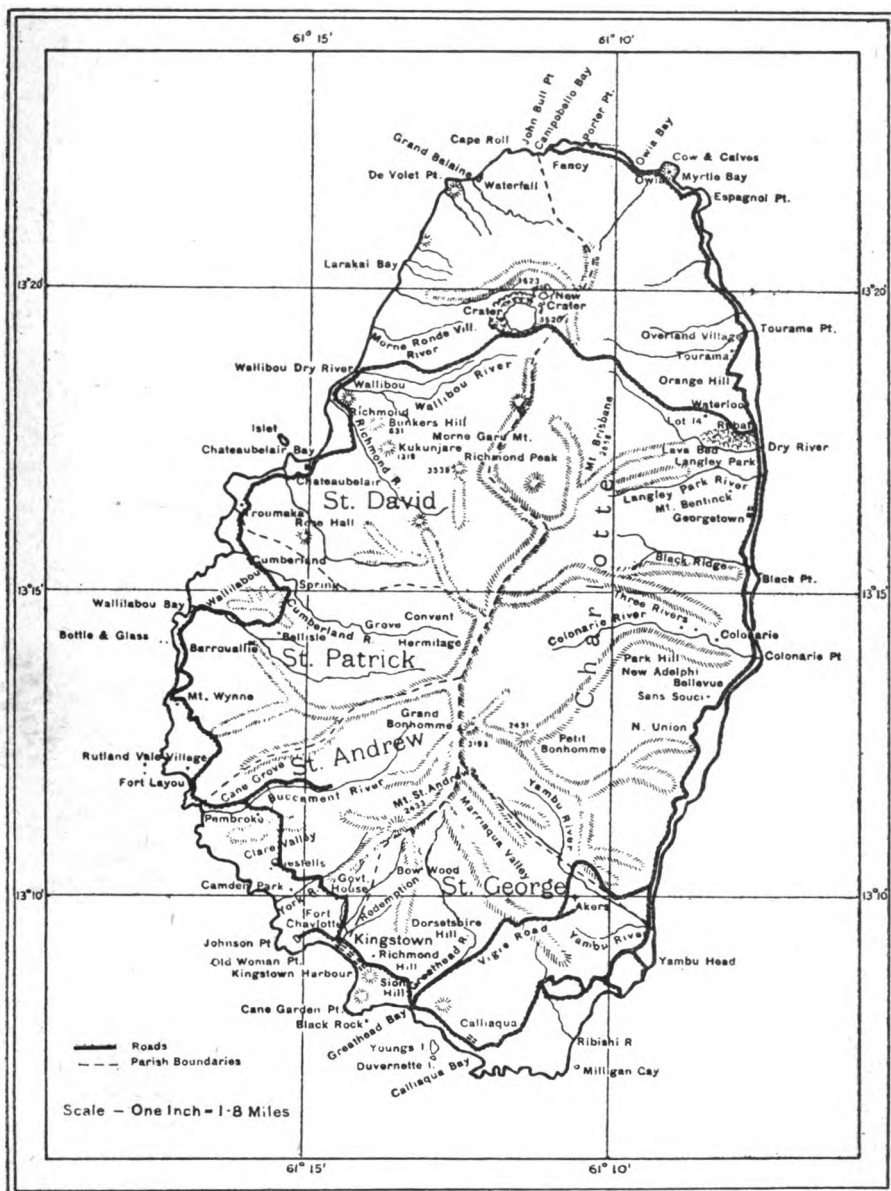
NOTE.—A War Bonus at rate of £16 per annum is paid on all salaries up to £800 per annum.

* Plus temporary war-time increase of 33½ per cent.

APPENDIX VIII

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC

<i>Title of Publication.</i>	<i>Published Price and Subscription Rate.</i>	<i>Cost of Postage to United Kingdom.</i>	<i>Address of London Agent.</i>
Blue Book for 1939 . . .	10s. 6d. each	6½d. per copy	The Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Millbank, London, S.W. 1.
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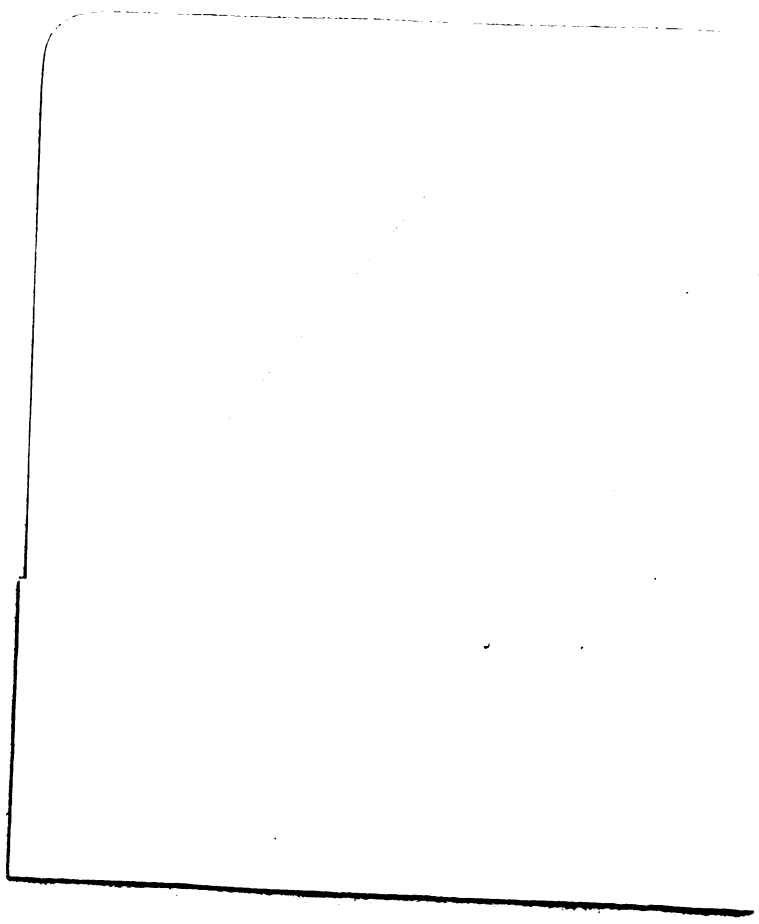
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